

Transportation

Location

Oglesby is located in the western central portion of LaSalle County. Oglesby is within 100 miles of Chicago, Illinois, 80 miles of the Quad Cities, and within 60 miles of other major Illinois urban areas such as Bloomington, Rockford, and Peoria.

The City of Oglesby is located at the heart of the Nation's transportation system. Both highways and railways, two of the most prominent forms of passenger and freight transportation in the United States, serve the City. Oglesby is also in close proximity to waterway and air transportation. (see MAP 4 Oglesby Area Transportation Map)

Roadways

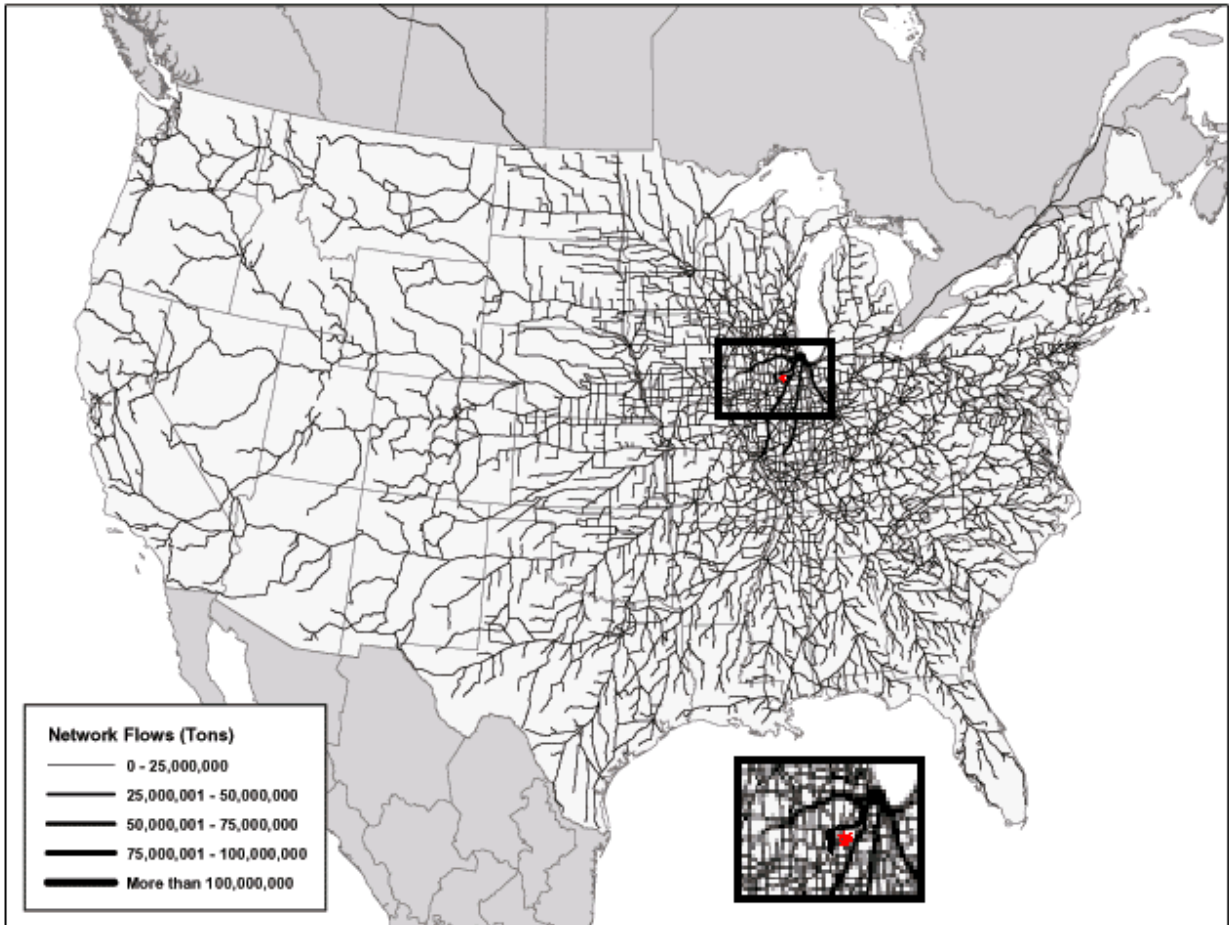
The City of Oglesby has four (4) major roadways running through the City limits. Interstate Route 39 (I-39), a north and south interstate, runs through the western side of the City. I-39 runs from Normal, IL (where it connects to I-55) to Rothschild, WI. Illinois Route 71 runs through the City from the northeast to the south. Route 71 is an east-west route north and south of the City. Route 71 runs from Hennepin, IL (as a link to the City of Peoria) in a northeasterly direction through Oglesby to Oswego, IL. Illinois Route 251 runs north and south through the City's far west side. Illinois 251 runs parallel to I-39 and U.S. Route 51 for most of the length of I-39 in Illinois. Illinois Route 351 runs north and south through the northern part of Oglesby. Route 351 connects Route 71 with Interstate Route 80 (I-80). I-80, the second longest interstate in the United States, which runs from San Francisco, California, to Teaneck, New Jersey, is just 4-miles north of the City of Oglesby and can be accessed within minutes, by Route 251, Route 351, or I-39.



Oglesby's proximity to these major interstates and its central location within the interstate network provide an ideal location for transportation of goods and materials to and from all parts of the country. These interstates are among the heaviest traveled in the country. A 2007 IDOT average daily traffic count on I-39 showed that 16,900 vehicles(south of Walnut St.) and 18,3000 vehicles(north of walnut St.) pass through Oglesby and 33,800 vehicles travel on I-80 near east of the I-39/80 interchange (see Oglesby Area Transportation Map for more detailed traffic

counts). The aforementioned factors provide Oglesby with a prime location for industrial, manufacturing, logistics, and travel center development.

Map 3 – Illinois Network Truck Flows



(Oglesby area highlighted in red)
Source: US Department of Transportation

Railroads

The City of Oglesby is connected to America’s railroad network through a spur track connected to the Iowa-Interstate, CSXT, and Illinois Railway main-line rail at LaSalle. The spur track is located along the northeast side of the city. The nearest Amtrak passenger rail station is located 22 miles from Oglesby in Mendota, Illinois.



Waterways

The City of Oglesby is located on the Vermilion River. This river is primarily used for recreation; though it is used as a barge turn-around at its mouth to the Illinois River.

The Illinois River is located just north of Oglesby. The Illinois River is entirely navigable and maintains a nine-foot navigation channel between its eight (8) locks and dams. The river is a primary connection for barge transportation between Lake Michigan and the Mississippi River. The Illinois River is heavily used as a source of recreation for both residents and visitors.

Air Service

There are no commercial air facilities in Oglesby. The nearest airport to Oglesby is the Illinois Valley Regional Airport in Peru (7 miles north). The airport does not offer scheduled passenger service. It is primarily used for corporate, private, and charter flights. The airport has a 6,000 foot paved and lighted runway. Thirty-nine aircraft are based there with 22,000 annual operations. A new crosswind runway will be completed in the fall of 2009.

The closest commercial airports offering scheduled passenger service and freight are in Bloomington and Rockford (within 70 miles). Also, two major commercial airports Chicago's O'Hare International and Midway Airports are located within 100 Miles of Oglesby.