



Driver Ed

News

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Upcoming Professional Development

Boise Red Lion- February 6, 2016

Twin Falls Hilton Garden Inn- March 12, 2016

Lewiston Red Lion- April 9, 2016

Coeur d' Alene Hampton Inn and Suites- April 23, 2016

Pocatello Clarion Inn- May 7, 2016

Buckle up!

A simple step most drivers and passengers already take—buckling their seat belts—cuts in half the chance of being seriously injured or killed in a crash. Yet, one in seven do not wear a seat belt on every trip. If everyone in the vehicle buckled up every time, we could further reduce one of the leading causes of death.

Those who claim opting not to wear a belt harms no one but themselves are wrong. Unbelted crashes cost all of us in the form of higher insurance fees, lost productivity, and most of all, through the heavy emotional toll that these needless deaths take on family, friends, and the community.

The most important thing you can do to stay safe in your car is to wear your seat belt. This is a fact, no matter what your opinion about the law.

Driving Through the Eyes of Teens

- Teen drivers whose parents are highly involved are 50% less likely to crash, 71% less likely to drive intoxicated, two times more likely to wear seat belts, and 30% less likely to use a cell phone.

Be a Healthy Driver

- No impairment from alcohol, drugs, or sleep deprivation
- Don't tailgate
- Keep calm
- Back off from road rage: Learn to let go of anger and move on.

How do you deal with road rage? It is essential to keep calm while driving, and dealing with road rage is no exception. There are two main components when road rage is involved: you and the other driver. By maintaining a courteous mindset, we can make our roads safer by remaining confident and controlled and ultimately, safe on the road. Losing control of your emotions behind the wheel can mean losing control of your vehicle. It is important to learn to 'let go' when another driver becomes angry or angers us. Avoiding eye contact is a good start.

Taking photos on train tracks: 'A mistake you can't undo.'



Sarah and Natalie Crim had just taken 35 photographs on the train tracks. The 16-year-old twins stepped off and looked at the screen on Sarah's 35mm camera.

Several pictures caught their eyes. One showed Natalie holding hands with her 16-year-old boyfriend, John DeReggi. Another showed Sarah, the sun lighting up her hair, with John striking a skateboarding pose atop a rail. As the sisters clicked through images, John stayed on the rail, balancing.

Behind the teenagers, less than a mile away, Amtrak's Capitol Limited was heading toward them at 76 miles an hour.

What happened moments later — a train looming, startled people who had been taking photos — has become a deadly phenomenon nationwide. John, a well-liked high school junior in Maryland, became the fifth person this year killed while taking photos or videos on train tracks in the United States.

DID YOU KNOW THAT AUTOMOBILE CRASHES ARE THE NUMBER ONE CAUSE OF DEATH AMONG TEENS AND THAT 16-19 YEAR OLDS HAVE THE HIGHEST CRASH RATE? NEW DRIVERS ARE FOUR TIMES MORE LIKELY TO BE KILLED AND FOURTEEN TIMES MORE LIKELY TO BE INJURED THAN OTHER DRIVERS. STUDIES HAVE FOUND THAT SPEED AND INEXPERIENCE ARE THE MAIN CAUSES OF CRASHES AMONGST TEEN DRIVERS.

Avoid Distractions

- Do not use cell phones while driving; pull over, if necessary. Driving distractions are serious and have become an increasingly problematic issue, particularly with the ongoing use of cell phones. At the least, a cell phone conversation while driving takes away much of your attention. More serious, and recently with fatal consequences, is text messaging while driving. Texting not only distracts drivers from the mental processes required for driving, but it forces drivers to look away from the road, often for extended periods.
- Music can be helpful to a driver, particularly on long journeys, however, it should be kept in mind that your focus is to be on the road at all times.
- Do not allow extraneous distractions such as eating, reading, applying makeup, using a PDA, or game console.
- Do not allow disruptive passengers to ride with you. In addition, the combination of loud music and chattering passengers can take our focus off the road. Things happen fast while we're driving, and keeping this in mind can reduce crashes and prevent the potential for tragic events that all too often occur due to driving distractions.

State Department of Education

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