

Traffic Safety Quarterly

A UTAH SAFETY COUNCIL PUBLICATION
Summer 2016



Stay Safe While Traveling This Summer

celebrating 80 Years of Safety

Upcoming Safety Observances

June

- National Safety Month
- National Click It or Ticket Campaign
- National Ride to Work Day

July

- Heat Safety Awareness Month
- National Fireworks Safety Month

August

- Back to School Month
- National Stop on Red Week
- Utah Drowsy Driving Awareness Week
- Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over

September

- National Alcohol & Drug Addiction Recovery Month
- National Child
 Passenger Safety Week

Free resources are available on the Utah NETS webpage to assist you during these observance periods.

For more information, visit UTAHSAFETYCOUNCIL.ORG.

With school ending in Utah and the summer travel season beginning, it is important to remember that the "100 Deadliest Days of Summer" are also commencing. This is the period between Memorial Day and Labor Day when crash fatalities historically climb.

After all of the safety awareness programs available to the public, there are still too many drivers who are not buckled up, texting while driving, or trying to multitask (eating a bowl of cereal?!).

Keep yourself and your family safe this summer. Here are five basic ways to stay safe while traveling:

Always buckle up. Wearing your seat belt is the most effective way to protect yourself in a crash.

Don't drink and drive. If you choose to drink, plan ahead for a designated driver, use public transit, or call a friend or cab to pick you up.

Stay focused on the road. Eliminate distractions and JUST DRIVE. Many kids will become restless while riding in cars, so have plenty of activities for them. Remember, "happy child = happy parents = stress-free driving."

Prevent drowsy driving. Being well-rested will heighten your awareness while on the roadways. Take 5 to 10 minute power naps if needed.

Slow down. Slowing down and increasing following distance will give you more reaction time with other motorists on the roadway. Remember, it's not how fast you arrive at your destination, it's how you get there.

Safe driving starts with you and ends with you. Let's give those State Troopers a very quiet, uneventful summer by following these basic steps to keep you, and those around you, safe.

For more information regarding any of our traffic safety programs, visit our website at UTAHSAFETYCOUNCIL.ORG, or contact Greg Royall, Traffic Safety Program Manager at 801.746.**SAFE** (7233) or **groyall**@ utahsafetycouncil.org.



Train Your Drivers With Defensive Driving

Whether your employees drive as the main function of their job, make incidental trips, or simply commute to work, they are at their greatest risk when they are operating a motor vehicle.

Protect your employees and your organization with the most advanced driver safety course from the National Safety Council - Defensive Driving Course - 4 hour (DDC-4).

DDC-4 is a driver improvement program that offers practical strategies to reduce collision-related injuries, fatalities and costs. It addresses the importance of attitude in preventing crashes, and reinforces the good driving skills students already have. Most importantly, DDC-4 shows students the consequences of the choices they make behind the wheel, and puts defensive driving in a personal context.

No other driver training program has a higher rate

of success in reducing the severity and frequency of collisions for its participants than the National Safety Council's Defensive Driving Course. Study after study has shown that drivers who participate in Defensive Driving Courses average fewer collisions and fewer driving arrests than drivers who do not take a course.

DDC-4 has been designed and developed to meet the driver improvement and safety needs and goals of your organization. In addition to a four-hour traditional delivery, the course is customizable in a variety of ways. This course is available on-site or specially arranged at the Utah Safety Council. Regularly scheduled public courses are also available.

For more information or to schedule a course, contact Greg Royall, Traffic Safety Program Manager at 801.746. **SAFE** (7233) or email **groyall**@utahsafetycouncil.org.

Apply Now: Occupational Seat Belt Award

Each year, the Utah Network of Employers for Traffic Safety (NETS) and the Utah Safety Council challenge businesses and their employees to increase their seat belt usage.

The Occupational Seat Belt Award is presented to organizations that encourage seat belt use among employees and achieve a 100% usage rate.

Organizations will be presented with an award for their success at the Utah Safety Council's Annual Meeting & Awards Luncheon on Friday, August 19, 2016.

Applications are due July 1, 2016. The application forms can be found online under the Utah NETS section of the Utah Safety Council's website, UTAHSAFE-TYCOUNCIL.ORG.

For questions or further information, please contact Greg Royall, Traffic Safety Program Manager at 801.746. **SAFE** (7233) or at **groyall**@utahsafetycouncil.org.

Is Your Car Ready for Summer?



With summer already upon us and travel plans being made, we need to ask ourselves one question: how prepared is my car?

Vehicle maintenance is imperative when it comes to traveling, and each season presents a new challenge. Summer may be the most challenging season on cars, with the extreme heat. Stopping and starting can take a large toll on your car.

Before beginning your trip, follow these steps:

Check air pressure at least once a month. Proper inflation assures the best possible contact between the tire and the roadway. An improperly inflated tire can overheat and potentially cause a blowout. To find the correct PSI for each tire, refer to the door jam or owner's manual.

Check your A/C system. Working A/C will keep you and your family comfortable, and not on each other's nerves (hopefully!).

Inspect windshield wipers. Having properly working wipers and a full fluid reservoir will ensure that your windshield is clean. Visibility is always important, so clean your windshield often.

Perform an under-the-hood inspection, and check the following:

- Battery: Check for corrosion on the terminals.
 The corrosion can be cleaned off with baking soda and a toothbrush. Most batteries are maintenance-free, so you will not need to check fluid levels.
- Oil: It is always good practice to change your oil regularly. Follow the specific guidelines for your car.
- Coolant: Check your coolant levels, and make sure that they are at the proper levels. If you need to add fluid, use the pre-mixtures for convenience.
- Brake Fluid: Check your brake fluid and if you find yourself needing more, take your car in to have the brakes checked.

Even with preparation, things can go wrong. It is also a good idea to have an emergency roadside kit in your car. It should contain: a cell phone car charger, first aid kit, flash light, flares, white flag, jumper cables, tire pressure gauge, jack, gloves, extra change of clothes, basic tool kit, duct tape, water, paper towels, windshield washer fluid, maps, and an emergency blanket.

Prepare for the unexpected, and please travel safely this summer season. Be sure to check out UTAHSAFE-TYCOUNCIL.ORG for free traffic safety resources.





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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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NETS News

If you would like to submit items for use in this newsletter, send them to:

Email: groyall@utahsafetycouncil.org

Phone: 801.746.SAFE (7233)

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