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(757) 498-2562

**Drive Safe Dispatch Newsletter
End of the Month Info
May-June 2019**

UPCOMING DATES...



- * June 13 – Membership & Development Committee Meeting, AAA Tidewater Virginia, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 9:30am
- * June 17 – DAD-Peninsula materials due
- * June 25 – Hampton Roads Show studio audience needed, 9-10:30am
- * June 26 – CMV Driver Appreciation Day-Peninsula, I-664 Inspection Station

2019-2020 DRIVE SAFE HAMPTON ROADS OFFICERS



President: Larry Montgomery, *Virginia State Police*
 Vice-President: Catherine Wilson, *AAA Tidewater Virginia*
 Treasurer: Pat Davidson, *Virginia Department of Health*

DRIVE SAFE HAMPTON ROADS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pierre Granger, State Farm, Chairman of the Board
 John Fentress, Community Advocate
 Ruby Gatling, Community Advocate
 Scott Wichtendahl, Virginia Beach Police Department
 Myrna Banks, Norfolk Public Schools Transportation
 Jim McElligott, Virginia Beach Police Department
 Georjeane Blumling, AAA Tidewater Virginia



**Thank you to Scott Wichtendahl for his service to Drive Safe HR as the Board Chairman for the 2018-2019 year. Pierre Granger will be taking on this position for the 2019-2020 Board.



Don't forget to utilize **Amazon Smile!!!** When you make a purchase from Amazon, 05% of the purchase will be donated to Drive Safe Hampton Roads. Remember Drive Safe HR when shopping this summer season!
THANK YOU! We appreciate your support.
 Let's keep Drive Safe HR in mind for YOUR charity.

As of May 8, 2019, Drive Safe HR has received \$22.54.

Whether you are a PrimeMember or an Amazon Member:

1. Visit smile.amazon.com.
2. Sign in and choose Drive Safe Hampton Roads Inc.
3. Begin shopping!

Or the quick easy way <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-1856349>

THANK YOU TO OUR JUBILEE VOLUNTEERS!



We appreciate the volunteers who were part of this year's 2019 Chesapeake Jubilee Designated Driver Booth: Jonathan Turner, Mike Eardley (who did TWO shifts – Thank You!), Ricky Bowers, Priscilla Cuffee, Myrna Banks, Fitz Wallace, Otis Bullock, Dana Simmons, Anthony Pope, Donell Davis, and Buck Raymond. **We could not have done it without YOUR help!**

POLO SHIRT ORDER

Interested in a Drive Safe logo shirt?

The Membership & Development Committee is collecting orders for Drive Safe logo shirts. Let us know if you are interested. We will need a minimum of 12 items in order to keep the prices this low. Additional information pricing forthcoming.



VOLUNTEER HOURS



Do you volunteer your time for Drive Safe HR? If so, please be sure to send in your tabulated hours each month so that this information can be used towards the grant in-kind hours accumulations. DSHR is mandated to maintain an accounting of volunteer hours from its members. This accounting reflects the time you spent on sharing Drive Safe information, participating in events, or for any activity or business related to DSHR.

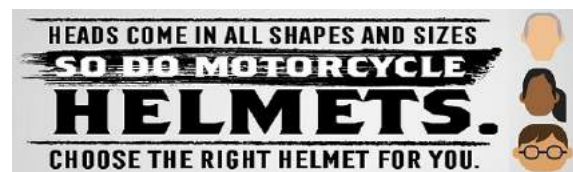


All 50 States have "**Move Over**" laws to protect law enforcement officers and other first responders stopped on our Nation's roads. Yet, **many of our drivers are unaware of these laws ...** and traffic-related incidents continue to be the number one cause of death among on-duty law enforcement officers.

CHILD SAFETY SEAT INSTALLATION



Parents, grandparents, and anyone else who drives with young children in the car should be able to handle child safety seats properly. That's why AAA offers free child safety seat checks, during which trained technicians will make sure your child's car seat is installed safely and correctly. These seat checks are offered year-round, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Contact AAA Tidewater Virginia to make an appointment at 757-233-3889.



While motorcycling offers riders a sense of freedom, riding a motorcycle doesn't offer the structural protection that a motor vehicle does to keep riders safe in the event of a crash. That's why motorcyclists need to get special rider training, and wear special gear to protect their bodies and make them more visible. In a motorcycle crash, the best protection for your brain is by wearing a DOT-compliant motorcycle helmet. Motorcyclists, and their passengers, wearing DOT-compliant helmets, increase their chances of survival significantly over non-helmet and/or vanity helmet wearers.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS...

Drive Safe has several upcoming events that will need volunteers from the membership. If you are interested in any of the following "jobs", please let us know.



Motor Carrier Driver Appreciation Day - Peninsula

Scheduled for Wednesday, June 26, 8:00am-10:00am, I-664 Inspection Station, on the right, just before the Monitor Merrimac Tunnel. Volunteers are needed to help distribute the food and educational bags.

Get It Together High School Seat Belt Challenge

Fall 2019 Community Liaisons are needed for the participating high schools. Stake your claim to volunteer at your preferred school.

Occupant Protection Committee Chair

DSHR is looking for a person to chair the Occupant Protection Committee. This committee leads in the development of programs and functions to educate the public regarding the need for occupant protection devices for children and adults, and their proper use. Occupant Protection includes the Get It Together High School Safety Belt Challenge, the Old, Used, Borrowed and Abused Child Safety Seat Round-Up, regional child safety seat checks, and Silver Driver (senior driver) issues. Contact DSHR for additional information and a list of responsibilities.

Get It Together (GIT) Subcommittee Chair

DSHR is looking for a person to take over this legacy program, effective the end of December 2019. Georjeane Blumling will be retiring from AAA but will stay on as a DSHR Board Director and advisor for the GIT program. Ideally, this person should be available to shadow Georjeane to learn the ropes as the GIT Challenge starts kicking off in mid-July.

Treasurer Assistant

Sometimes, life just gets really busy. And DSHR's Treasurer position continues to expand. DSHR is looking for a person to work alongside the current Treasurer, Pat Davidson, and potentially take over some of the steps involved in the grant writing process and some of the general treasurer duties. This summer, Pat will be retiring from the Virginia Department of Health but plans to stay on a DSHR's Treasurer.

FACT:

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) - The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), **MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES ARE THE LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH AMONG WORKERS IN THE U.S.** Wearing a seat belt is the single most effective thing you can do to protect yourself in a crash. According to the most recent Cost of Motor Vehicle Crashes to Employers, crashes cost employers more than \$47 BILLION DOLLARS. It takes about two seconds to buckle your seat belt to reduce your chances of injury or death in a serious traffic crash by nearly half. **BUCKLE UP!**



CHECK OUT THESE EVERY 15 MINUTES VIDEOS

First Colonial High School -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gpWI03RS3E0>

Tallwood High School - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=St206unBozA>



JULY IS NATIONAL THEFT PREVENTION MONTH

Motor vehicles are the primary mode of transportation for most of us, and often, an indispensable part of our lives. Having said this, nearly \$6 billion was lost to motor vehicle thefts in 2017.

What would happen if yours suddenly disappeared?

- In 2017, of all motor vehicles stolen, 75% were automobiles.
- An estimated 773,139 motor vehicles were stolen in 2017.
- 0.8% increase when compared with 2016 estimates.
- 10% increase when compared with 2013 estimates.

<https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/vehicle-safety/vehicle-theft-prevention>

FYI: List of state organizations that have alcohol-related, non-enforcement grants and their contact information.

1. Washington Regional Alcohol Program, Kurt Erickson:

<http://www.wrap.org/files/contactus.htm> (statewide anti-drunk driving campaign)

2. Chesterfield SAFE, Regina Whitsett: <http://chesterfieldsafe.org/who-we-are/staff/> (Chesterfield County anti-drunk and drugged driving campaign)

3. DADSS, Jessica

Lambertson: <https://www.dadss.org/virginia/>; <https://www.dadss.org/contact/> (Driver Alcohol Detection System for Safety)

4. Youth of Virginia Speak Out or YOVASO, Mary King: <http://www.yovaso.org/contact/> (youth anti-drunk driving and seat belt campaign)

5. DRIVE SMART Virginia, Janet Brooking: <https://www.drivesmartva.org/contact-us/> (sports-targeted anti-drunk driving and seat belt campaigns, Who's Your Driver and What's Your Game Plan)

6. The VA Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation & Dance or VAHPERD, Janet Ragland: <https://www.vahperd.org/> (youth anti-drunk driving campaign)

7. Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police or VACP, Dana

Schrad: https://www.vachiefs.org/vacp_staff (underage drinking prevention on college campuses)

8. Drive Safe Hampton Roads, <https://www.drivesafehr.org/>; dshr@drivesafehr.org (anti-drunk driving campaign, Surviving the Drive)

FEEL FREE TO TWEAK!

We need **YOUR** help in getting the Drive Safe HR name out in the community.

If you have a Facebook or Twitter account, be sure to mention Drive Safe HR when you post your pictures from the various events by using the tag '@DriveSafeHR' within your comments.

FACT:



- Of the 37,461 motor vehicle traffic fatalities in the United States during 2016, 1,233 (3%) of those killed were children.
- An average of three US children from birth – 14 years old were killed each day in traffic crashes during 2016.
- Child safety seats are 71% effective in reducing deaths for infants in passenger cars.
- They are 54% effective in reducing deaths for children ages 1 – 4 in passenger cars.
- Children who have outgrown child safety seats should remain in a booster seat until they've reached their eighth birthday* In addition, they must be at least four feet nine inches tall, 80 lbs. and/or fit correctly in the vehicle's seat belt alone.

NHTSA AND THE AD COUNCIL LAUNCH NEW PSA CAMPAIGN TO COMBAT DRUG-IMPAIRED DRIVING

Marijuana-impaired driving is becoming more of a road safety issue. So, **NHTSA** and the **Ad Council** have joined forces to launch their first joint drug-impaired driving prevention campaign. This new national public service announcement (PSA) initiative aims to change the cultural conversation around driving after using marijuana so it's seen as a universally unacceptable behavior, just as these partners previously changed public perceptions of drunk driving with their iconic "*Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk*" campaign.

Our message is: ***If You Feel Different, You Drive Different.***

Don't get behind the wheel after using marijuana.

<https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/drug-impaired-driving/if-you-feel-different-you-drive-different/ad-council-psa>

FACT:

Last year in Virginia, 24,350 distraction-related crashes killed 126 people and injured 13,733.* Distracted driving is any activity that diverts attention from driving, including talking or texting on your phone, talking to people in your vehicle, fiddling with the stereo, entertainment or navigation system - anything that draws your focus away from the task of driving. Fiddling with a phone is one of the most dangerous forms of distraction. It involves your hands, eyes, and attention.

*preliminary figures

Taking your eyes off the road, even briefly, can have tragic consequences.

A lot can change in a few seconds.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ry919gwpW30&feature=youtu.be>

TOP TIPS FOR AVOIDING DRIVER DISTRACTION:

- Enable the "Do Not Disturb" feature on your phone.
- Install a "Do Not Disturb" app that detects when you are driving.
- Enter addresses into your GPS device before driving.
- Don't fiddle with Infotainment System features while the vehicle is in motion.
- Never reach for something that has fallen or slid away from you.
- Avoid eating, drinking, smoking, and other distracting activities while driving.



BELOW 100

The mission of **Below 100** is to reduce police officer line-of-duty deaths to fewer than 100 per year. <https://www.below100.org>

On Friday, May 31, 2019, 12 people lost their lives at the Virginia Beach Municipal Center. Drive Safe Hampton Roads extends its deepest sympathies to family, friends, and co-workers affected by this tragedy. #VBStrong



DRIVE SAFE HAMPTON ROADS is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization whose mission is to inform and educate the public on traffic safety issues.

**Drive Safe and Buckle Up!!
Every Trip, Every Time**