

Drive Safe Hampton Roads

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Dispatch – October 2020

Welcome to our newest Drive Safe HR Member!

Michael Ihrig, MI Technical Solutions, Inc.

UPCOMING DATES...



- October 14 – CMV Event -check with committee chair for location
- October 18-24 – National Teen Driver Safety Week
- November 1 – Daylight Saving Time Ends
- November 12-13 – DRIVE SMART Virginia’s Distracted Driving Summit, Virginia Beach
- November 16-29 Click It or Ticket
- November 18 – CMV Event - check with committee chair for location (tentative)
- November 20 – Hanna Award Submissions DUE



SHOPPING EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS?

Continue to utilize **Amazon Smile**!!! When you purchase from Amazon, 05% of the purchase will be donated to Drive Safe Hampton Roads. Drive Safe Hampton Roads was issued a **\$16.89 donation** from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity

between April 1 and June 30, 2020. The quick, easy way <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-1856349>

MASKS: LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND MOTOR CARRIER COMMUNITY



REMINDER: FMCSA recently sent Drive Safe HR several boxes of face masks to be distributed to the Commercial Motor Vehicle Law Enforcement Community and our motor carrier members. Please contact DSHR@drivesafehr.org if you are interested in receiving masks. Thank you to Craig Feister and Suzanne Smith for their help in getting these to us for distribution.

HAVE SOME SPARE TIME ON YOUR HANDS THESE DAYS?

Time to step up and be counted! Drive Safe HR has several positions that need volunteers from the membership. If you are interested in any of the following 3 “jobs”, please let us know. DSHR needs **YOUR** involvement to keep this organization moving forward.



Treasurer Assistant (ProTem) --- Occupant Protection Committee Chair ---- DSHR Vice-President

FEEL FREE TO TWEET!



We need **YOUR** help in keeping the Drive Safe HR name 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'.

FACT: There have been over 13 Lifetime Achievement winners for the John T. Hanna Awards. Some of the recognized winners include Lillian DeVenny, Dean Godwin, Martie Schlosser, RC Powell, Wally Timmons, Frank Kowaleski, Georjeane Blumling, Jim McElligott, Keith Acosta, Tom Clifford, Karen Pyle, John Fentress, and Patricia Davidson.



The 2020 JOHN T. HANNA AWARDS: Recognizing Traffic Safety Excellence in Hampton Roads

In 1991, Concerned Citizens Advocating Traffic Safety (the previous name of Drive Safe HR) instituted the JOHN T. HANNA AWARDS. Named after Virginia’s “Father of Transportation Safety”, these awards honor those who share Mr. Hanna’s tireless dedication and commitment to improving traffic safety on Virginia’s highways. www.drivesafehr.org/hanna

****Please note that the Hanna Award submission process is entirely online. Submissions are now being accepted.**

AWARD CATEGORIES

Lifetime Safety Achievement Award: Presented for lifetime achievement in the area of transportation safety.

Employer Safety: Presented for employers who have taken the extra initiative to promote traffic safety and encourage their employees to practice safe driving behaviors.

Martin H. Schlosser Award for Traffic Safety Activism: Presented for outstanding efforts in educating citizens and changing attitudes and behavior regarding transportation safety.

Roadway Innovations: Presented for Individuals and/or organizations that show exemplary achievement in the design and/or implementation of highway engineering techniques, technology, and innovative approaches.

Impaired Driving Prevention: Presented for encouraging the prevention of drunk, drugged, drowsy, and/or drugged driving.

Law Enforcement Initiatives: Presented to a law enforcement department or individual who has shown extra initiative above and beyond the normal duties to promote and encourage traffic safety within their community.

Legal: Presented to attorneys, judges, or legislators who have actively supported safety issues thus strengthening existing laws and creating new laws that impact communities to help improve or reduce highway safety-related behaviors.

Messaging/Media: Presented to individuals or organizations, including but not limited to media representatives or news outlets, that have created messaging, used an innovative outreach method, or have helped spread the word about traffic safety through reporting or programming.

Occupant Protection: Presented for promoting and encouraging the use of safety belts and/or child safety seats through creative and innovative programs and activities.

Transportation Safety: Presented for developing approaches in the public and/or private sector, encouraging, educating, and/or promoting traffic safety to improve safety for drivers and riders. **(**MODIFIED CATEGORY**)**

Youth Traffic Safety: Presented to persons or programs educating youth and spreading the message on the importance of youth traffic safety.

Fire/Emergency Medical Services: Presented for actions at crash scenes or for activities or efforts that have a broader impact on improving at-scene safety and/or survivability and injury reduction for victims. **(**NEWEST CATEGORY**)**

Eligibility, Rules, and Notification:

Any individual, business, organization, or governmental agency in the Hampton Roads and Eastern Shore area, which promotes community traffic safety, i.e. sober driving, use of safety belts, bicycle or pedestrian safety, motorcycle safety, incident management, etc., is eligible for nomination. Show us how you incorporated COVID policies into your programming! 2019 JOHN T. HANNA AWARD winners are not eligible for 2020 nomination. Eligible activities, programs or materials are those that were initiated, completed, published, or produced **in the period from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020. Entries must be received by November 20, 2020.**

DSHR SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITY



The impact of COVID-19, along with recent events nationally, has had an immediate effect on the ability to conduct highway safety programs as in previous years. However, there are still groups and individuals who are working hard towards saving lives and reducing traffic safety injuries and fatalities in Hampton Roads. Drive Safe HR plans to recognize these individuals through a modified presentation of the upcoming Hanna Awards. If you or your company would be interested in sponsoring the purchase of this year's Hanna Award plaques, please contact us at dshr@drivesafehr.org. Thank you for your support!

NATIONAL TEEN DRIVER SAFETY WEEK: OCTOBER 18-24, 2020



Parents should have conversations with their teens about the important rules they need to follow to stay safe behind the wheel of a motor vehicle.

These rules address the greatest dangers for teen drivers:

- distracted driving (texting while driving)
- impaired driving (alcohol and drugs)
- inconsistent or no seat belt use
- number of passengers
- speeding

Even if you think they aren't listening, they are. So, remember, set the rules **before they hit the road**. Click [here](#) and get your campaign materials now.

ALCOHOL AND COVID-19 DON'T MIX

ENCOURAGE ADDITIONAL CAUTION ABOUT ALCOHOL DURING THE PANDEMIC.

Drinking alcohol impairs both physical and mental abilities, and it also decreases inhibitions. Reduced inhibitions from drinking and being intoxicated may affect a young person's ability to take the precautions needed to reduce the risk of contracting the coronavirus or spreading it to others, such as maintaining appropriate physical distance and wearing a mask. The coronavirus pandemic will create additional stress and uncertainty this fall, so support for students will be critical.

<https://www.collegedrinkingprevention.gov>



Parents, gift a safe driving app to your teen driver just in time for the new Virginia law banning handheld cellphones while driving. CellGuardians, a new Android safe driving app, breaks the habit of distracted driving caused by cellphones. Once installed, the gold shield comes up and blocks distracting apps. Easy, simple, and effective. The subscription costs \$0.99/month or \$9.99/year. The first 30 days are free. Great tech solution for teen drivers! Happy holidays!

RATES AND CONSEQUENCES OF COLLEGE DRINKING

Binge drinking is defined as a pattern of drinking alcohol that brings blood alcohol concentration [BAC] to 0.08 percent—or 0.08 grams of alcohol per deciliter—or higher. The consequences of harmful and underage drinking by college students are more significant, more destructive, and more costly than many parents realize. And these consequences affect students whether they drink or not. The most recent statistics from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) indicate that drinking by college students ages 18 to 24 contributes to an estimated 1,519 student deaths each year. In addition, there are an estimated 696,000 assaults by students who had been drinking and 97,000 cases of sexual assault or date rape each year.

[Time for parents to discuss risks of college drinking](#)



FACT: According to the 2018 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), 54.9 percent of full-time college students ages 18 to 22 drank alcohol in the past month, and 36.9 percent engaged in binge drinking in the past month.

THAT GUY UPDATE:

Owning your limits at home is just as important as owning them at a bar. Remind Service members that if they choose to drink, there are tools to help them drink responsibly and stick to their overall health goals.

Tips on how to monitor drinking habits from home and create a safer drinking routine:

- Check your drinking habits. The first step to monitoring your drinking is to understand your drinking habits.
- Stay on track. Once you set a goal, mark down each drink before you have it to make sure your drink recipes stay within the standard drink limits.
- Team up with a buddy. If you decide to cut back on drinking, do it with a buddy and try other activities together instead of drinking (like a virtual workout).
- Slow down on stocking up. If you're looking for ways to drink in moderation, buy smaller amounts of alcohol. Also, consider swapping out booze for fizzy drinks like flavored sparkling water or non-alcoholic beers.
- Pair with plenty of water. Remember to drink a glass of water with every alcoholic drink. This will help you practice responsible drinking and enjoy the drinks you have.

https://ownyourlimits-media.s3.amazonaws.com/OYL_eNewsletter_August2020.pdf

DMV UPDATE

The Department of Motor Vehicles, along with NHTSA, recognizes October as Pedestrian Safety Awareness month. The Virginia crash data indicates pedestrian crashes, fatalities and injuries trended higher for three consecutive years. Therefore, there is a need to educate our communities on pedestrian safety. Pedestrian crash data totals in the Commonwealth of Virginia are as follows:

2017			2018			2019		
Crashes	Fatalities	Serious Injuries	Crashes	Fatalities	Serious Injuries	Crashes	Fatalities	Serious Injuries
1608	114	447	1623	123	424	1625	124	432

However, messaging, education and enforcement initiatives by all partners' has assisted in reducing fatalities and serious injuries. See the comparison from 2019 – 2020 preliminary data through September 15 of each year:

Year	Fatalities	Serious Injuries
2019	77	262
2020	71	213

Knowing the data and using the available resources below will be important as we all work to decrease the pedestrian related crashes, fatalities, and injuries.

The following resources are included for our partners to use to educate our communities:

[Everyone is a Pedestrian](#)

[Pedestrian Safety Tool Kit for Hispanics](#)

[DMV pedestrian safety](#)

[Toward Zero Deaths](#)

[See and Be Seen](#) (Drive Smart Virginia)

[Street Smart Safety Campaign](#)

[shareVAroads](#) (Northern Virginia Regional Commission)



FACT:

45 minutes of running = The amount of time a 130 lb. person would need to run to burn off 3 glasses of red wine OR 375 calories. <https://www.ownyourlimits.org>

REMINDER: WE NEED TO HEAR FROM EVERY MEMBER AND SPONSOR

LETTER FROM THE DRIVE SAFE HAMPTON ROADS BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

For over 32 years, Drive Safe Hampton Roads (DSHR) has been the premier traffic safety leader in Hampton Roads. This is mainly due to the many dedicated volunteers who champion our mission of saving lives through traffic safety education in the community and often across the Commonwealth. Whether it be for our members, partners, or community stakeholders, these efforts to improve traffic safety are core to who we are and what we do.

Yet today we find ourselves dealing with an unprecedented situation. The COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic has been intense for all of us in the past months. We have been asking questions which would have seemed unlikely just a year ago. **Will Drive Safe Hampton Roads still be viable to our core mission going forward?** How can we best protect the volunteers and participants? How do we keep the organization running and productive? How will our community utilize our legacy programs and remain compliant with the pandemic restrictions?

The situation we're all dealing with will likely have a lasting effect on the way we connect with each other and get things done going forward. There has been much discussion on how to answer these questions, how to provide support, and how to proceed once the pandemic ceases to affect us in our activities. One way we have been able to continue the business of staying connected is to offer accessible resources from our website, DriveSafeHR.org. But more is needed to make an ongoing success of this organization.

Drive Safe Hampton Roads intends to emerge from this pandemic as a more compact, focused organization. But to do this, we need your involvement and commitment for this plan to rebuild. This transformation will take not only the support of individuals, but of organizations and companies, with both hands-on support and financial assistance. **Can we count on you to step up and help us achieve this?**

It is in moments like this that remind us that we're all connected. Just like you, we are focused on our volunteers, our members, and their safety. As we navigate this new reality, we hope you will stand with us to become a stronger organization. **Please let us know if you are willing to become more involved in the efforts of DSHR.** It can be as simple as volunteering some time, chairing a committee, becoming a member of the Board of Directors, or just providing your input to support the ideals that this organization was founded on in 1988.

No matter what your level of involvement will be going forward, please respond and **tell us how you can support this effort.** You can reach us directly via dshr@drivesafehr.com.

Kindness, patience and partnership will get us through this. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors
Drive Safe Hampton Roads
501 (c)(3) non-profit organization
drivesafehr.org

Drive Safe and Buckle Up!



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.



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

