

# Drive Safe Hampton Roads

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## Dispatch – February 2021

### UPCOMING DATES...

May 18-20, 2021 – Virginia Highway Safety Summit planned in Alexandria, VA

**\*\* CANCELED \*\*** The 2021 Old, Used, Borrowed and Abused Child Safety Seat Round-Up was canceled due to current coronavirus restrictions (COVID-19) and for the safety of our community.

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### HAVE SOME SPARE TIME ON YOUR HANDS THESE DAYS?

Time to step up and become invested in YOUR organization!



Drive Safe HR has several critical positions that need volunteers from the membership. If you are interested in holding an officer position, have a nomination for the Board of Directors or if you are interested in chairing a committee, please let us know. DSHR needs **YOUR** involvement to continue to keep this organization running and moving forward.



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### CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER...

#### John T. Hanna Awards Honoring Traffic Safety Excellence in Hampton Roads 2020 Recipients:

**CellGuardians by MI Technical Solutions** – Martin H. Schlosser Award for Traffic Safety Activism

**VDOT Hampton Roads District** – Fire/Emergency Medical Services

**Coastal Ride** – Impaired Driving Prevention (Group Award)  
and

**Norfolk Police Department** – Impaired Driving Prevention (Group Award)

**Kim Baylor (Granby High School)** - Youth Traffic Safety

**Chesapeake Public Works Traffic Engineering Division** - Messaging/Media

Please join us in congratulating these deserving winners. Powerpoint presentation will be loaded onto the website soon.

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### SUPER BOWL IMPAIRED DRIVING PREVENTION CAMPAIGN

The Super Bowl is America's most watched national sporting event. On Super Bowl Sunday, February 7, there will be lots of game day socializing that may include drinking. That's why NHTSA is urging football fans to plan ahead a safe ride home. Get your campaign materials at: <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/drunk-driving/buzzed-driving-drunk-driving/super-bowl>

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## DRINK RESPONSIBLY, EVEN FROM HOME...

Activity restrictions are making 2020 look a little different than expected. A new at-home routine may affect drinking habits, so encourage friends and family members to stay on track with their health goals by drinking responsibly. Share these 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. Notice how you're doing and set a goal.
- **Stay on track.** Mark down each drink before you have it. 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.

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### FACT:



Consider if your drinking tolerance has changed. Your tolerance might be lower from staying home and not going out as much (and that's okay!). Think about how alcohol may affect you and remember standard drink sizes so you can make smart drinking decisions.

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## INFORMATION ON ROADSIDE EMERGENCIES

Multiple state agencies have come together to provide guidance to motorists to keep them and others safe in the event of an emergency incident, minor vehicle crash while traveling, or a vehicle breakdown.

The most important reminder is the need to use caution and common sense –because every incident is unique. To be ready for the unexpected, motorists and passengers are encouraged to:

- Prepare their vehicle in advance to avoid and minimize emergencies,
- Assess the situation when a roadside emergency occurs,
- Use good judgment in deciding how to respond, and
- Stay vigilant for other motorists because roadside emergencies are fluid situations that can change in an instant.

[https://zerodeathsmd.gov/roadsidesafety/?utm\\_source=Newsletter+List&utm\\_campaign=5d543f63d3-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2020\\_03\\_10\\_09\\_45\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_485f5c4911-5d543f63d3-50809789](https://zerodeathsmd.gov/roadsidesafety/?utm_source=Newsletter+List&utm_campaign=5d543f63d3-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_03_10_09_45_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_485f5c4911-5d543f63d3-50809789)

**what to do during a roadside emergency**

every situation is different

- › prepare › assess › use good judgment › stay vigilant

**IF THERE IS NOT AN IMMEDIATE EMERGENCY**

- › Do everything you can to get your vehicle off the highway

**IF YOU ARE ABLE TO REMAIN IN YOUR VEHICLE**

- › Remain buckled and facing forward

**IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO REMAIN IN YOUR VEHICLE**

- › Do not stand near the vehicle
- › Move to higher ground, or behind a guardrail/embankment

If you need help, contact roadside assistance. If you're on an interstate call #77 or 9-1-1 if it is an emergency and wait until help arrives.

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**FACT:** According to the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles 2019 crash statistics, distracted driving caused 23,246 accidents and 120 fatal crashes. Those figures represent 18.1% of all crashes and 14.5% of all fatalities on Virginia roadways.

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**DMV UPDATE: PPE FOR THOSE IN NEED**



Our friends at the Ford Motor Company, through Ford Motor Company Fund, are offering no-cost Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to agencies serving key communities needing masks. This includes students, teachers and staff returning to school; multicultural communities; disabled veterans; the food insecure and others identified as "in need" by state and local officials. Please pass this fact sheet along to them.

Fact Sheet (Copy and Paste the link into your browser) -

> [https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ghsa.org%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2F2020-11%2FFord%2520Fund%2520PPE%2520Distribution%2520INFO\\_GHSA.docx&data=04%7C01%7CBill.Naff%40dot.gov%7C8208b610d773432b2aa608d8b288642c%7Cc4cd245b44f04395a1aa3848d258f78b%7C0%7C0%7C637455646155389999%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLjBjIi6I1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=v9eEcf8fCTcMpsWmL3sDotUjiMUslz1uX7%2Bt6Wf56VA%3D&reserved=0](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ghsa.org%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2F2020-11%2FFord%2520Fund%2520PPE%2520Distribution%2520INFO_GHSA.docx&data=04%7C01%7CBill.Naff%40dot.gov%7C8208b610d773432b2aa608d8b288642c%7Cc4cd245b44f04395a1aa3848d258f78b%7C0%7C0%7C637455646155389999%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLjBjIi6I1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=v9eEcf8fCTcMpsWmL3sDotUjiMUslz1uX7%2Bt6Wf56VA%3D&reserved=0)

Agencies can request PPE directly

at <https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ppe.ford.com%2F&data=04%7C01%7CBill.Naff%40dot.gov%7C8208b610d773432b2aa608d8b288642c%7Cc4cd245b44f04395a1aa3848d258f78b%7C0%7C0%7C637455646155399960%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljojMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLjBjIi6I1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=WzkDSHC029Xc0GyW6p6%2B%2FwsrYBh0g%2BJoV8ZgMrO2PD0%3D&reserved=0> and click on Mask Donation Requests. Ford will review submitted requests once a week. Have them put "GHSA Referral" in the comment section.

Orders of less than 12 boxes (2280 masks per box) can be requested directly through the website. 12 boxes or more must be requested via email to Kyle Green, [kgreen35@ford.com](mailto:kgreen35@ford.com).

Thanks for helping to spread the word to our partners.

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**FREE WEBINARS**

DRIVE SMART Virginia reminds you to register for the free webinars in the DRIVE SMART Virginia Virtual Safety Series.



Upcoming Webinars:

**February 3:**

Corporate Risk Management

**February 17:**

Advanced Driver Technology to Prevent Distracted Driving

Click [HERE](#) for more information on this series.

<https://www.drivesmartva.org/distracted-driving-summit/drive-smart-virginia-virtual-safety-series/>

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**FACT:** Virginia law now prohibits drivers from holding any personal communication devices while driving a moving vehicle on the state's roadways.

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**ALL DISTRACTED DRIVING IS DANGEROUS.**

We live in a connected world where multitasking is second nature and communication is instant. This, coupled with the compulsion to stay connected at all times, makes drivers overly confident in their ability to 'safely' text and use their cell phones while driving. <http://stoptextsstopwrecks.org/campaign>

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## CRASH RATES: DRIVERS IN THEIR 70S BELOW MIDDLE-AGED DRIVERS



Better health, safer vehicles and various policy interventions have prevented a spike in crashes as a result of the aging U.S. population. Drivers in their 70s are now less likely to be involved in a fatal crash than those in prime working years. Not only do drivers in their 70s now have fewer fatal crashes per licensed driver, but they also have fewer police-reported crashes per mile traveled than middle-aged drivers.

<https://www.iihs.org/news/detail/crash-rates-for-drivers-in-their-70s-drop-below-those-of-middle-aged-drivers?fbclid=IwAR35Zzet1hMnJT0AuwGzFsmAF1Xa6Me57P4qpcwXQyb16dwtYibU5P6CX-4>

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## TECHNOLOGY COULD 'GREATLY REDUCE' REAR-END CRASHES INVOLVING LARGE TRUCKS: IIHS STUDY

Installing crash prevention technologies on the front of large commercial trucks may reduce, by more than 40%, crashes in which those trucks rear-end another vehicle, according to a recent report from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. IIHS Director of Statistical Services Eric Teoh analyzed data from about 2,000 crashes involving large trucks that occurred from 2017 to 2019. He found that forward-collision warning systems reduced rear-end crashes by 44%, while automatic emergency braking systems reduced the crashes by 41%. Additionally, these technologies were found to reduce overall crashes by 22% and 12%, respectively.

[https://www.safetyandhealthmagazine.com/articles/20502-technology-could-greatly-reduce-rear-end-crashes-involving-large-trucks-iihs-study?utm\\_source=trans-topic&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=topic](https://www.safetyandhealthmagazine.com/articles/20502-technology-could-greatly-reduce-rear-end-crashes-involving-large-trucks-iihs-study?utm_source=trans-topic&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=topic)

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### FACT:



Drivers who violate the new law will be subject to a \$125 fine for the first offense and \$250 for each subsequent offense. Violations that occur in highway work zones also will carry a \$250 fine. It still is permissible to use hands-free technology to make or receive phone calls while driving—the ban only prohibits drivers from directly handling their devices.

If drivers must use their phones while traveling, they must be lawfully parked or stopped to do so. Drivers using a handheld device to report an emergency are exempt, as are the operators of emergency vehicles who are engaged in their official duties. Motorists also may handle amateur or citizens band radios.

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## VEHICLE SAFETY RECALLS WEEK / MARCH 8-12, 2021

NHTSA manages vehicle safety recalls, sets vehicle safety standards, and requires automakers to recall vehicles that have safety defects or do not meet those standards. During Vehicle Safety Recalls Week, NHTSA wants to increase awareness of the urgency of safety recalls and to encourage the driving public to check and see if there's an open recall on their vehicle.

To get the 2021 campaign materials: <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/vehicle-safety/recalls-safety-campaign>

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### IS A CRASH EVER AN ACCIDENT?

Traffic safety advocates hope changing the way we talk about collisions will lead to fewer of them. Language matters! <https://www.caranddriver.com/features/a34741342/crash-vs-accident/>

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## SHOPPING FOR YOUR VALENTINE??

Continue to utilize **Amazon Smile**!!! When you purchase from Amazon, 05% of the purchase will be donated to Drive Safe Hampton Roads. The quick, easy way <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-1856349>

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## FANS DON'T LET FANS DRIVE DRUNK – SUPER BOWL SUNDAY, FEB. 7, 2021

Super Bowl has become synonymous with drinking and celebrating, making roads on Super Bowl weekend dangerous.

<https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/drun-driving/buzzed-driving-drun-driving/super-bowl>

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71% of U.S. Freight is moved by trucks

[#OurRoadsOurSafety](#) [#ThankATrucker](#)

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## DRIVE2LIVE CONTEST

Students in grades 6 through 12 are encouraged to create a 30-second public service announcement featuring a scenario showing teens how to avoid or prevent distracted driving. A total of five awards are offered, ranging in value from \$500 to \$1,000 each. **Deadline: February 19.**



Apply here: [https://www.nrsf.org/sites/default/files/contest-downloads/nrsf-drive2life-2021-contest-overview.pdf?utm\\_source=Newsletter+List&utm\\_campaign=0ac2c5a973-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2020\\_03\\_10\\_09\\_45\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_485f5c4911-0ac2c5a973-50809789](https://www.nrsf.org/sites/default/files/contest-downloads/nrsf-drive2life-2021-contest-overview.pdf?utm_source=Newsletter+List&utm_campaign=0ac2c5a973-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_03_10_09_45_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_485f5c4911-0ac2c5a973-50809789)

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## National Police Group Looking For Innovative Teaching About Safe Driving Behavior

The National Road Safety Foundation (NRSF) and The National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) are looking for innovative methods with which resource officers teach teens about safe driving. Together, they announced that nominations have opened for the 2021 Innovation in the Classroom Award.

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/national-police-group-looking-for-innovative-teaching-about-safe-driving-behavior-301210109.html>

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**DRIVE SAFE HAMPTON ROADS is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization whose mission is to improve highway safety, and reduce injuries and deaths from vehicle crashes.**

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

