

Drive Safe Hampton Roads

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Dispatch – April 2022

UPCOMING DATES...

- April – GIT Awards Presentations mailed / delivered this month
- April 6 – OPC/GIT Committee Meeting, via Zoom, 11:00 am
- April 7 – Distracted Driving Summit Meeting, VB, 11:00 am
- April 12 – CMV Regional Check, 7:30 am
- April 12 – JBLE Distracted Driving Awareness Event at Base Exchange Langley AFB, 10:30-12:30
- April 12 – **757 Sober Ride** Committee Meeting, via Zoom, 10:00 am
- May 3-5 – Virginia Highway Safety Summit in Alexandria, VA
- May 10 – CMV Regional Check, 7:30 am
- June 25 – Cars for Chris Car Show - Fundraiser and Educational Event in Williamsburg, VA
- August 18-19 – DRIVE SMART Virginia Distracted Driving Summit, Hilton's The Main in Norfolk

 **Welcome to our newest Drive Safe HR Member!**
Xochitl Yanez, State Farm

VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED


 Time to step up and be counted!
Drive Safe HR needs a Vice-President for the 2021-2022 year.
DSHR needs **YOUR** involvement to keep this organization running and moving forward.

2022-2023 DRIVE SAFE HAMPTON ROADS OFFICERS


President: Keri Douglas, *MI Technical Solutions, Inc.*
Vice-President: **YOUR NAME HERE?**



ALL MEMBERS: DON'T FORGET TO REPORT YOUR IN-KIND HOURS

 DMV grants require 25% match documentation of in-kind service hours from the DSHR membership. Please be sure to collect and send in this information so it can be documented monthly.

SHOPPING THOSE SPRING SALES??

 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>

GREAT NEWS!! We received **\$48.15** in donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation as a result of AmazonSmile program activity between October 1 and December 31, 2021. **THANK YOU!**



FACT: On average, 1 person is killed every 3 days and over 31 are injured each day in crashes involving distracted driving. Six percent of all drivers involved in fatal crashes in 2019 were reported as distracted at the time of the crashes.

757 SOBER RIDE



Drive Safe Hampton Roads newest program, **757 Sober Ride**, is almost here! **757 Sober Ride** will provide a free Lyft ride home up to \$15.00 on select holidays. Users will be financially responsible for any charge over \$15.00. Participants must be 21 or older to use 757 Sober Ride.

On May 5, **757 Sober Ride** will debut in the cities of Virginia Beach and Norfolk for Cinco de Mayo, providing this service for rides originating within these two cities. Drive Safe will also provide this free Lyft ride home service for Memorial Day and for the 4th of July. Beginning with Halloween 2022, Drive Safe HR plans to expand this service to include all the major cities in Hampton Roads.

There will be a virtual meeting of the **757 Sober Ride** Committee on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Please let us know if you wish to attend so we can send you a Zoom link beforehand.

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.

AAA offers appointments for child safety seat checks from 9 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday. Make an appointment at 757-233-3889.

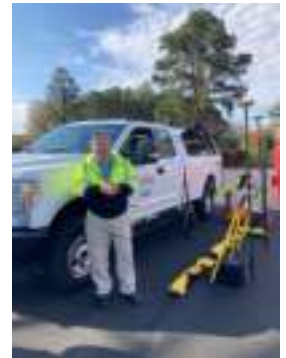
THANK YOU TO VDOT...FROM KERI DOUGLAS, DSHR VICE-PRESIDENT



Thank you to Jim Stanek, Incident Management Coordinator/Eastern Region Operations for Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), for the excellent tour of the VDOT Incident Command Center for members of Drive Safe Hampton Roads. It was an honor and privilege to observe and learn from the men and women who serve the community by ensuring traffic safety for all drivers. VDOT in the Eastern Region helps thousands of people over the year; and, at least over 1,500 drivers a month in the Hampton Roads region with roadside assistance that may include enough gas to get to the next gas station, change a tire, a tow to safe ground, or any other assistance before emergency response teams arrive. The VDOT Command Center is ever vigilant monitoring traffic on regional roads and highways and responding to any incident.

The future is here and now in Hampton Roads. Jim's team mentioned that a new system is being put in place to create electronic flares to alert drivers using WAZE that there is an incident ahead and to use caution. Another first, VDOT has integrated new LIDAR technology into the way they do accident reconstruction reports that has cut their reporting time down by half and creates a full 3D with animation report that supports the accident investigation.

Jim has **one request for all drivers** – to slow down. Please share this message with your colleagues, neighbors, and family members. We can all do our part to support VDOT in their work to keep the roads safe and open, by slowing down.





FACT: The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) provides a variety of services to ensure the safety of the traveling public on all state-maintained roads. This includes roadside assistance, road maintenance and a Customer Service Center. Report unsafe conditions, to the Customer Service Center at 800-367-7623.

SAVE THE DATE...



The 9th Annual Distracted Driving Summit will be held August 18-19 at The Main in Norfolk, Virginia. This annual conference focuses on curbing distracted driving through advocacy, enforcement, corporate policies, education, and research. Hundreds of attendees hear experts from around the country talk about the most cutting-edge solutions for distracted driving. <https://www.drivesmartva.org/distracted-driving-summit/>



FACT: In 2019 there were 3,142 people killed and an estimated additional 424,000 people injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers.

**MESSAGE FROM THE DMV HIGHWAY SAFETY OFFICE:
RE: Distracted Driving Awareness Month**

Dear highway safety partner,

Distracted Driving continues to be a preventable, risky behavior that Virginians must avoid. A great time to remind drivers of these dangers is during April, which is Distracted Driving Awareness Month in Virginia and nationally. Virginia DMV encourages you to educate citizens through your agency’s social media. Download and publicize free anti-distracted driving materials from the Traffic Safety Marketing website here: <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/distracted-driving/evergreen-campaign-material>

Additionally, law enforcement agencies here in Virginia and across the country are striving to prevent distracted driving crashes, injuries and deaths during a national enforcement wave from April 4 through 11, 2022, with the primary message being U Drive. U Text. U Pay. Support this effort by downloading and publicizing free U Drive. U Text. U Pay materials from the Traffic Safety Marketing website here <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/distracted-driving/u-drive-u-text-u-pay>. Thank you for your dedication to saving lives on our roads.



FACT: Do you know it’s illegal to hold a handheld communications device (phone) while driving a moving motor vehicle in Virginia? In 2019, there were 387 fatal crashes reported as having cell phone use as a distraction (13% of all distraction-affected fatal crashes).

OLD, USED, BORROWED AND ABUSED CHILD SAFETY SEAT ROUND-UP



This year’s ‘Round-Up’ netted almost 200 child safety seats. In the 32+ years this Legacy program has been held, over 18,000 seats have been collected and either destroyed or recycled. The goal for the Round-Up is to convince parents and caregivers to turn in their old, used or potentially dangerous safety seats so that these seats are not resold or given to unsuspecting parents or caregivers for use. Thank you to our community partners: Walmart Supercenters, AAA Tidewater Virginia, Hoffman Beverage Co., Waste Management of Virginia, and the Children’s Hospital of the King’s Daughters.

CARS FOR CHRIS BENEFIT CAR SHOW



The Christopher King Foundation's 2nd annual Car Show to benefit Drive Safe Hampton Roads will be held at Williamsburg Airport, 100 Marclay Drive located in Williamsburg, VA 23185 on Saturday, June 25 from 9 am to 1 pm. Show field opens at 8 am. All makes and models of cars welcome. Trophies will be awarded for top cars-categories TBD by pre-registered cars. Spectators are free. Food trucks will be on-site, restaurant on-site, 50/50 raffle, airplanes, live music, local Police Department demonstrations, and more.

For further information: Email Christy King at ChristopherKingFoundation@gmail.com

THE ROAD WE TRAVEL, provided by DRIVE SMART Virginia

The podcast, The Road We Travel, continues to grow its audience. In December, DSVa interviewed Ellen Kamilakis, social media guru for VDOT Northern Virginia. You may know her as Meemaw. Last month, Joel Feldman told his story. Following the death of his daughter Casey in 2009 by a distracted driver, Joel has given more than 700 presentations across the country. Listen and subscribe @ <https://rss.com/podcasts/drivesmartva/362157/>

VIRGINIA GRAND DRIVER



As we get older, it may seem like driving becomes more challenging. By staying aware of how your reaction time and other physical abilities may be changing, you can use new tools to make sure you're staying safe on the road.

<https://www.granddriver.net>

ARE YOU A SAFE DRIVER? TAKE THE QUIZ!

Check your driving skills and ability with a 10-question quiz. You can find this quiz at the bottom of the home page at <https://www.granddriver.net>.



FACT: Nearly 20% of Virginia drivers do not wear their seat belts. The nationwide seat belt use rate is 90.7%! Everyone in a moving vehicle should be buckled. That includes rear seat passengers too! (Stats from NHTSA)

HRTPO PROJECT OF THE MONTH: HOLLAND ROAD WIDENING-SUFFOLK



This month, the HRTPO staff is highlighting the Holland Road Widening project located in the City of Suffolk. The project will widen Holland Road, providing an additional travel lane both eastbound and westbound from the Suffolk Bypass (Route 13/58/32) to 0.7 miles west of Manning Bridge Road, a total of 3.1 miles. Traffic signals along the corridor will be upgraded and a multi-use path will also be constructed.

<https://www.hrtpo.org/news/article/march/08/2022/project-of-the-month%3A-holland-road-widening--suffolk/>

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**



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