

Drive Safe Hampton Roads

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Dispatch – December 2022

UPCOMING DATES...

- November 23-24 – 757 Sober Ride Home for Thanksgiving Eve – “Blackout Wednesday”
4 pm Wed.-4 am Thurs., <https://www.drivesafehr.org/757soberride>
- November 30-December 2 – Virginia Occupational Safety & Health Conference - Newport News
Marriott at City Center - <https://www.doli.virginia.gov/2022-vosh-training-conference/>
- December 7 – Membership Volunteer Hours DUE for November
- December 9 – CMV DAD-Southside Materials DUE
- December 12 – GIT Challenge Midway Materials DUE
- December 19 – CMV Driver Appreciation Day-Southside
- December 30 – Committee Quarterly Reports DUE
- December 31 – 757 Sober Ride Home for News Year’s Eve <https://www.drivesafehr.org/757soberride>

757 SOBER RIDE – New Year’s Eve: December 31, 2022

Don’t let the last day of the year be YOUR last day. Plan ahead to celebrate the beginning of 2023. Add a sober designated driver to your list of resolutions. You can catch a free/reduced fare Lyft ride compliments of Drive Safe Hampton Roads for rides originating throughout ALL of Hampton Roads. 757 Sober Ride will be offered for New Year’s Eve, December 31st, from 4 pm to 4 am New Year’s Day. Code available 3 pm Saturday, December 31, at <https://www.drivesafehr.org/757-sober-ride/>.

IN 2023, MAKE A COMMITMENT TO BE AN INVOLVED DSHR MEMBER...



If you are interested in filling one of these positions, contact DSHR@drivesafehr.org:
Occupant Protection Chair – **VACANT**
Virginia Specialized Transportation Safety & Management Conference Chair – **VACANT**
Legislative / Govt. Affairs Liaison – **VACANT**
Board of Director Open Slot – **VACANT**



HOLIDAY SHOPPING? <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-1856349>
Use Amazon Smile!!! When you purchase from Amazon, 05% of the purchase will be donated to Drive Safe Hampton Roads.

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. AAA offers appointments for child safety seat checks from 9 am-4:30 pm Monday through Friday # 757-233-3889.

FACT:

In 2020, there were 11,654 people killed in drunk-driving crashes.



2022 PRE-HOLIDAY SEASON IMPAIRED DRIVING PREVENTION

November 28 - December 13, 2022



The holiday season is right around the corner. Like drunk driving, drug-impaired driving is also dangerous and illegal. Whether the drug is obtained legally or illegally, driving while drug-impaired poses a threat to the driver, vehicle passengers, and to other road users.

Click to get your 2022 campaign materials:

<https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/drunk-driving/buzzed-driving-drunk-driving/pre-holiday-season>.



FACT: During the 2016-2020 December months, there were more than 4,400 people killed in drunk-driving-related crashes.



The 29th Annual Southside Commercial Motor Vehicle Driver Appreciation Day is almost here...Monday, December 19, 8-10 am. Event will be set up at the Old Toll Plaza on I-264 Eastbound towards the Virginia Beach Oceanfront. If you wish to contribute to or volunteer for this event, please let us know by December 9. THANK YOU for driving safely in Hampton Roads!



FACT: In 2020, there were 55.7 million people in the United States-17% of the population - who were over the age of 65. Older drivers, especially those over 75, are more likely than younger drivers over 20 to suffer injuries or die when involved in a motor vehicle crash.

OLDER DRIVER SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK: December 5-9, 2022

In 2020 there were 55.7 million people - 17% of the total U.S. population - who were 65 and older. It is important to note, simply getting older does not mean a person's driving days are over. Age-related changes in vision, physical functioning, and the ability to reason and remember, as well as some diseases and medications, might affect some older adults' driving abilities.

It is important, however, to plan ahead and take steps to ensure the safety of older loved ones on the road. The risk of crashes for older drivers is in part related to physical, visual, and cognitive changes associated with aging, medical conditions and the medications used to treat them.



FACT:

In 2021 the total estimated fatalities for the 65-and-older age group increased by 14%, reversing the declining trend in fatalities among those 65 and older seen in 2020.

U.S. TRAFFIC DEATHS ARE AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL IN 16 YEARS

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, in 2021, there were 42,915 traffic fatalities in the United States. Multi-vehicle collisions, urban highways, rural interstate routes, and pedestrians all saw increased fatalities. Read more at <https://www.makeroadssafe.org/u-s-traffic-deaths-are-at-the-highest-level-in-16-years-heres-why/>

CHRISTOPHER KING FOUNDATION (CKF)

The CKF has a new home on the web...check it out at <https://www.christopherkingfoundation.com/>.

Save the Date for the Cars for Chris Car Show, June 24, 2023, Williamsburg-Jamestown Airport.

TO REDUCE THE DANGERS OF TEEN DRIVING, PARENTS NEED REALISTIC ADVICE

Check out this article: https://www.iihs.org/news/detail/to-reduce-the-dangers-of-teen-driving-parents-need-realistic-advice?mc_cid=8484676782&mc_eid=5975f6a307



FACT:

Young drivers ages 21-34 accounted for the highest percentage (26%) of alcohol-impaired fatalities in December 2020.

HAMPTON ROADS ECONOMIC MONTHLY: IMPACTS OF RISING INTEREST RATES

One of the few ways to combat inflation in the United States is for the Federal Reserve to raise the federal funds rate – more commonly known simply as interest rates. In the past year, the Fed has increased interest rates six times, the most recent increase being 0.75% just last week. While this type of monetary policy often takes time to filter through the economy and impact prices, it's already begun impacting one area that was significantly affected during the onset of the pandemic – the housing market. But while data has been swift to show movement in housing, where else can we expect rising interest rates to impact the regional economy in the immediate future? Read more at https://www.hrpdcva.gov/uploads/docs/Economic%20Monthly%20Nov_2022%20-%20FINAL.pdf

TIPS FOR DEALING WITH AN AGGRESSIVE DRIVER

1. First and foremost, keep your cool.
2. If they're tailgating you, change lanes, let them pass, and keep a safe distance (5+ car lengths).
3. Avoid looking directly at them, and making eye contact.
4. Ignore any rude gestures they may make, and do not return them.
5. Dial #77 from your cell phone, or if you feel in danger – dial 911.
6. If they follow you, proceed to the nearest law enforcement office OR crowded public place.

HRTPO RELEASES ANNUAL ROADWAY PERFORMANCE REPORT: 2022 ED.

https://www.hrtpo.org/news/article/.november/09/2022/hrtpo-releases-annual-roadway-performance-report_2022-edition

NEW ROAD TO ZERO COMMUNITY TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANTS AVAILABLE

Do you have an idea to make streets safer? The Road to Zero Coalition wants to help make it happen. Applications are now open for the latest Road to Zero Community Traffic Safety Grants. Funded by NHTSA, these grants support projects, programs and research that put the Road to Zero strategy into practice and help achieve the mission of zero traffic deaths. Application deadline is Jan. 6, 2023, 5 p.m. Go to [NSC.com](https://www.nsc.com) to sign in.

9 SAFETY CHECKS TO PREPARE YOUR CAR FOR A WINTER ROAD TRIP

With everything else on your to-do list, it's easy to overlook car care. But if you face less-than-optimal weather conditions during your holiday road trip, you'll feel more secure knowing your vehicle is up to the task.

1. Inspect Windshield Wipers

Make sure your car's wipers are in good condition and operating as they should. If they are streaking or skipping across the windshield, or the blades are split, dry-rotted, or worn, replace them. Install heavy-duty winter wipers if you live in (or are traveling to) an area that receives a significant amount of snow and ice.

2. Top Of Windshield Washer Fluid - fill the vehicle's windshield washer reservoir with "no-freeze" fluid.

3. Test Defrosters

4. Install Floor Mats Correctly

5. Gauge Tire Pressure.

Proper tire pressure can increase your vehicle's fuel efficiency and stability, as well as reduce the risk of a flat or blowout. During cold winter weather, it's especially important to keep an eye on your tires.

6. Check Your Car's Battery

7. Stock Your Vehicle With Essentials.

As you prepare for the holiday season, make sure your vehicle is ready for the road. Before you embark on a long road trip this holiday season, put together a car emergency kit. At the minimum, your kit should include an ice scraper, a flashlight, a blanket, jumper cables, flares, abrasive material like sand or kitty litter, and a small shovel. Of course, you'll also need food, water, and any necessary medications. If you're traveling with young children, elderly folks, or pets, make sure your kit contains extra blankets and any items specific to their needs.

8. Ensure Lights And Signals Are In Working Order.

Make sure your lights and signals are working properly by walking around your vehicle and checking that the headlights, taillights, brake lights, turn signals, and hazard lights are working properly.

9. Add Roadside Assistance To Your Auto Insurance Policy.

Best Defense Against Being Injured Or Killed By A Drug-Impaired Driver

Despite being illegal in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, impaired driving is still one of the most significant dangers on our roadways.

- If you use an impairing drug, designate a sober driver, call a cab, or use a ride-hailing service.
- Don't let friends get behind the wheel if they're under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- If you're hosting a party where alcohol or other substances will be used, it's your job to make sure all guests leave with a sober driver.
- Always wear your seat belt—it's your best defense against impaired drivers.
- Read and follow all warning labels before driving. Take special note of warnings against operating heavy machinery, including driving any vehicle.



If you plan to head out to festivities, make sure you plan a sober ride home, because driving drunk should never be an option. Even one drink is one drink too many if you're the driver. Buzzed Driving IS Drunk Driving. We WANT to see YOU next year!

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

