

Drive Safe Hampton Roads

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Dispatch – August 2023

UPCOMING DATES...

August 8 – CMV Regional Check
August 9 – GIT Committee Meeting, 9:30-10:30, Virtual
August 9 – Joint Steering/Board Meeting, 12:30-2:30 pm, 757 Room, HRPDC
August 28 – Many of Hampton Roads public schools return to class today. Be alert in school zones!
August 29 – ODU's Happy Hour with a Twist, 12:30-2 pm, Kaufman Mall, Old Dominion University
August 31 – Border 2 Border CMV Regional Check, Chesapeake
September 12 – CMV Regional Check
September 13-14 – 10th Annual Distracted Driving Summit, Blacksburg
September 19 – General Business Meeting, Speaker: Eileen Gerling, 12:30 pm, 757 Room
October 10 – CMV Regional Check
November 1 – John T. Hanna Nominations **DUE** – covers October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023
December 18 – Commercial Motor Carrier (CMV) Driver Appreciation Day to be held at the Monitor
Merrimac Inspection Station – donations are needed



DRIVE SAFE HAMPTON ROADS LEADERSHIP

Email: dshr@drivesafehr.org unless otherwise noted

Board of Directors:

Jim McElligott	John Fentress	Rich Jacobs	Dick Lohrmann
Myrna Banks	Ruby Gatling	Georjeane Blumling, PhD	

Steering Committee Members:

Keri Douglas, President	MPO Eriald Kera, Vice-President Myrna Banks (acting VP)	Jonathan Turner, Impaired Driver Prevention (IDP) Chair idpc@drivesafehr.org
Sgt. Robert Scarborough, Specialized Transportation Safety (STSC) Co-Chair stsc@drivesafehr.org	Tina Harvey Mann, Specialized Transportation Safety (STSC) Co-Chair stsc@drivesafehr.org	Dean Godwin, STSC, Law Enforcement Officer Sub-Committee Chair
Holly Dalby, Occupant Protection (OP) Chair & Assistant Treasurer GIT-Coordinator@drivesafehr.org	Kelli England, Ph.D., Membership At-Large Advisor	Penny Price, Membership At-Large (Military) Advisor
Patricia Davidson, Treasurer Treasurer@drivesafehr.org	Sue White, Social Media Coordinator Admin@drivesafehr.org	Christy King, Corporate Gifts Advisor christopherkingfoundation@gmail.com
Kathy Raymond, Administrative Manager Drivesafehr@drivesafehr.org		



WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST DRIVE SAFE HR MEMBERS!

Hal Massel, FMCSA

Tammy McGee, Gweedo Memorial Foundation

ABC

Do you know your A B C's?

Airbag Safety. Buckle Everyone! Children in Back!!

- Buckle all children ages 12 and younger in the back seat.
- Buckle children in the middle of the back seat when possible (using a lap and shoulder belt) because it is typically the safest position in the vehicle.
- Airbags can kill young children riding in the front seat. Never place a rear-facing car seat in front of an airbag.
- Buckle children in car seats, booster seats, or seat belts on every trip-no matter how short the trip.
- Set a good example and help protect everyone in the car by always using a seat belt.



CHILD SAFETY SEAT EVENT SCHEDULED

Monday, September 18, 2023

MileOne/VBFD/CHKD Car Seat Safety Event

Location: Hall Toyota/Laskin Rd.

Event Time: **3:00 pm - 6:00 pm**

Contact: Jessica Xenakis; jlxenakis@vb.gov; 757-385-2875 to volunteer/attend



DID YOU KNOW?



Did you know that CHKD sees children for car seat evaluations? If you know of a child with autism or any other special needs that prevent them from using a conventional car seat, reach out to the OTs at CHKD. A prescription is needed for Occupational Therapy for a car seat evaluation. (Rx's fax # is 757-668-7389)

If you have additional questions, please reach out to Eileen Gerling, OTR/L, ATP, CPSTI, Occupational Therapist, Coordinator, CHKD Child Passenger Safety Program, 757.668.7696, eileen.gerling@chkd.org.

757 SOBER RIDE ANALYTICS



2023 757 Sober Ride Cinco de Mayo had 6,207 (1015%) more page views and 5,014 (1101.98%) more users than 757 Sober Ride Cinco de Mayo in 2022.

2023 757 Sober Ride Memorial Day had 1,303 (387%) more page views and 658 (253%) more users than 757 Sober Ride Memorial Day in 2022.

757 SOBER RIDE - 2023

- Halloween - Friday, October 27-Sunday, October 29
- Blackout Wednesday - Wednesday, November 22
- New Year's Eve - Sunday, December 31

Please let us know if you would like a box of the 757 Sober Ride informational cards to distribute to your community organization, church, club, or community events. Each box contains 500 cards.



MOCKTAIL OF THE MONTH



BERRY ORANGE MOCKTAIL

¼ cup sliced strawberries, plus whole strawberries for garnish
1 tablespoon sugar
2 ounces orange juice
6 ounces sparkling water
1 frozen fruit bar, the kind with a popsicle attached (optional)

In a glass, muddle sliced strawberries and sugar.
(Muddle means to gently mash herbs or fruit to release their juices)
Add ice and orange juice to the glass. Top off with sparkling water.
Garnish with the frozen fruit bar and a whole strawberry. Enjoy!!

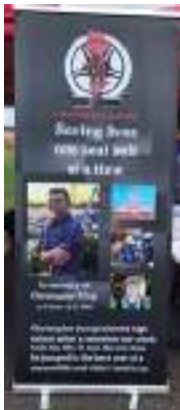
COMMUNITY LIAISONS NEEDED



Volunteers are needed for the 2023-2024 Get It Together High School Seat Belt Challenge (GIT). Participating as a Community Liaisons takes only about 10 hours over a 7-month period. Sign up to stake your claim to volunteer. If interested, contact DSHR@drivesafehr.org.

CARS FOR CHRIS CAR SHOW 2023

The Christopher King Foundation (CKF) Cars for Chris 2023 was a huge success! This event was held on Saturday, June 24, at the Williamsburg-Jamestown Airport. 100 cars registered and over 400 attendees! HUGE thank you to all of the sponsors!



Congratulations to all the winning cars, toolkit winner and the big 50/50 raffle winner! The CKF was able to raise almost \$1500 from these raffles alone. Drive Safe manned a table at this event. About 70 people stopped by the DSHR table to play games, win prizes, and pick up educational information on teen driving, impaired and distracted driving prevention, and seat belt safety. We even got a chance to catch up with a previous DSHR member, Frank Kowaleski.



(l-r Kathy & Buck Raymond, Jim & Deena McElligott)



(Rich & Debbie Jacobs)

(Frank and Jim)



10th ANNUAL DISTRACTED DRIVING SUMMIT



The Summit will be held on **September 13-14, 2023, at the Virginia Tech Inn and Conference Center in Blacksburg, VA!** This event focuses on bringing together top experts across the nation to discuss the best strategies, research, technology, enforcement efforts, etc. toward eradicating distracted driving.

The link to the event information and registration is:

<https://web.cvent.com/event/a80972ac-1659-4aa9-8f68-7350e3b20530/websitePage:bf356d24-4e27-4567-9d25-d38a84bbfc6b>.

A MESSAGE FROM DMV



Virginia's Move Over law changed was effective July 1.

If you aren't familiar with Move Over, it is a law that requires drivers to change lanes and proceed with caution, if possible, when passing emergency vehicles and law enforcement vehicles displaying red or blue flashing lights and utility, tow, and roadside assistance trucks displaying amber flashing lights on the roadside, according to AAA.

Effective July 1, the change expanded this protection to any stationary vehicle displaying hazard lights, warning signs (like an emergency triangle), or flares, AAA said. An example of a situation might be a driver who pulls over to the side of the road to fix a flat tire.



FACT:

The very first John T. Hanna Awards winners included Marilyn Jackson, SADD Coordinator for the York County School System, Virginians Opposing Drunk Driving (VODD), Officer H.E. Fawley from the Virginia Beach Police Dept's Special Patrol Operations and Tactics Bureau (SPOT), Chesapeake Police Department, and the Tidewater Virginia Alcohol Safety Action Program (VASAP).

Our most recent winners included Dwight Jenkins, Officer Cheryl Bertram, Master Police Officer Eriald Kera, VBPD Motorcycle Unit, Gweedo Memorial Foundation, Huffman and Huffman, Brothers-in-Law, Jennifer Xenakis and Ryan Arab, MileOne Cares/Hall Toyota Virginia Beach, VSP Division V Motorcycle Unit, and Deborah Fry.

2023 JOHN T. HANNA AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN TRAFFIC SAFETY

This year's nominations, covering October 1, 2022 – September 30, 2023 are due November 1, 2023.

****Please note that the Hanna Award submission process is entirely online.**

<https://www.drivesafehr.org/get-involved/john-t-hanna-awards/>

AWARD CATEGORIES:

Lifetime Safety Achievement Award

Employer Safety

Roadway Innovations

Impaired Driving Prevention

Law Enforcement Initiatives

Martin H. Schlosser Award for Traffic Safety Activism

Messaging/Media

Occupant Protection

Transportation Safety

Youth Traffic Safety

Fire/Emergency Medical Services

Legal

MESSAGE FROM THE CHRISTOPHER KING FOUNDATION (CKF)



We can't express enough how grateful we are for DSHR's help and support at this year's Cars for Chris car show! This year, we raised over \$10,000 for our safe driving programs which will go to benefit the following:

Drive Safe Hampton Roads' Get It Together Seat Belt Campaign in high schools reaches over 20,000 teens annually to educate them about safe driving and to buckle up.

CKF also supports Drive Safe Hampton Roads' 757 Sober Ride, which offers free sober rides over nationally recognized drinking holidays.

YOVASO-Youth Of Virginia Speak Out about Traffic Safety- YOVASO covers high schools partnered with the Virginia State Police to educate and demonstrate safe and distracted driving dangers. We will attend their leadership conference this summer to help educate teen leaders for their year of programs.

Drive Smart Virginia has invited CKF to participate in their annual Distracted Driving Summit. We are a part of their family ambassador program. We also received an invite through them to attend a crash test demonstration at the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety which is the US's main source of crash testing. We will use new information to educate teens and adults at our community events.

We will educate our teens at local high schools for back-to-school nights about driving safely and about Christopher. To increase awareness, we plan to place crash cars at proms. Our Foundation volunteers attend community events to promote safe driving. We are also working with The BURG radio to announce 757 Sober Rides and discuss Christopher's tragic story.

With this year's funds, we can extend our reach further into Hampton Roads and beyond! The Christopher King Foundation is now a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Our Tax id is 88-3424212.

Thank you! We couldn't do this without Drive Safe's support! We have the best volunteers and had so many comments about you all and how smoothly everything went!

Until next year.....
Christy and Scott

Christy King / 757-645-6359 / christopherkingfoundation@gmail.com

INTERESTED IN CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY TRAINING?



Virginia Beach Fire Department has open seats for the next CPST certification course. The standardized child passenger safety technician (CPST) certification course is usually 3-4 days long. It combines classroom instruction, hands-on work with car seats and vehicles, and a community safety seat checkup.

Attendance is required for the entire course. Training will be held August 28-31 for 32 hours total.

To register for this course:

<https://portalskcms.cyzap.net/dzapps/dbzap.bin/apps/assess/webmembers/secure/manage?webid=SKCMS&pToolCode=COURSE-SEARCH&pToolCmd=Details&pPrint=Yes&pSys=&pSignupID=&pProgramID=CMS-COURSE-3934>



FACT:

Car crashes are a leading cause of death for children. An average of 3 children were killed and an estimated 445 children were injured every day in traffic crashes in 2021.

WHAT IS THE CURIOUS SOBER MOVEMENT?



The term "sober curious" was coined by the author Ruby Warrington, who wrote a book on the topic in 2018. Since then, more people have started embracing the idea of mindful drinking. Being sober curious involves questioning your relationship with alcohol, why you drink, and how it makes you feel. More information can be found at

<https://www.verywellhealth.com/sober-curious-movement-6745491>

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT – TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2023 <https://natw.org>



National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community.

Neighborhoods host block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts and various other community events with safety demonstrations, seminars, youth events, visits from emergency personnel, exhibits and much, much more. Make sure to include traffic safety in your National Night Out event!

Plan ahead and order free materials for your event now at DRIVE SMART Virginia's online store.

<https://www.drivesmartva.org/store/>

U.S. REGULATORS PROPOSE NEW TESTS FOR PEDESTRIAN SAFETY TECH



As fatalities among pedestrians rise in the US, NHTSA is proposing new rules that seek to address the issue. The new rules would add a pedestrian crash test to a vehicle's assessment, and set new standards for automatic emergency braking technology.

<https://www.carscoops.com/2023/05/u-s-regulators-propose-new-tests-for-pedestrian-safety-tech/>

NHTSA ESTIMATES TRAFFIC FATALITIES

NHTSA Estimates Traffic Fatalities Dropped In The First Three Months Of 2023

NHTSA released its first projections for traffic fatalities in 2023, estimating that 9,330 people died due to traffic crashes in the first three months of the year. This represents a decrease of about 3.3% as compared to 9,645 estimated fatalities during the same time in 2022. The first quarter of 2023 represents the fourth straight quarterly decline in fatalities after seven consecutive quarters of year-to-year increases in fatalities, beginning with the third quarter of 2020.

To read the full article, and learn more, visit <https://www.nhtsa.gov/press-releases/nhtsa-traffic-fatalities-estimates-first-quarter-2023>.

FOUR DEFENSIVE DRIVING PRINCIPLES



Many people talk about defensive driving, but not many know what it is. True defensive driving boils down to behaviors, so here is an easy-to-remember mnemonic to define four principles that are essential defensive driving habits. More information on The LLLC

Defensive Driving Principles™ can be found at <https://avatars.com/four-defensive-driving-principles/>

BORDER TO BORDER

The Chesapeake Police Department is planning the annual Border To Border road check and CMV Checkpoint. This event will take place Thursday, August 31, 2023.



LOOKING FOR A FUN ACTIVITY FOR YOUR NEXT TEAM BUILDING DAY?



DRIVE SMART VIRGINIA CAN HELP!

Invite DRIVE SMART Virginia to your next team building day - participants can learn and have fun with our distracted and impaired driving simulator experiences. See your colleagues try to navigate an obstacle course driving a pedal kart while wearing our impaired goggles. Watch your boss as they try to pass a field sobriety test. These interactive educational activities are a great way to incorporate safe driving into your workplace health/safety fairs or team building events. <https://www.drivesmartva.org/outreach-and-education/training-request-form/>

REPORTERS NEEDED



Reporters are needed for the monthly Dispatch Newsletter. If you have information about your organization, programs, activities, materials or services offered, please share with us. Send to DSHR@drivesafehr.org.

BICYCLE-INVOLVED FATALITIES UP 125% IN VIRGINIA, DMV SAYS

So far this year, the DMV said there have been 160 bicycle-involved crashes on Virginia's roadways, resulting in the deaths of nine bicyclists and injuries to 156 others. They said this is a 125% increase in bicyclist-related fatalities compared to just four last year.

<https://wset.com/news/local/bicycle-involved-fatalities-up-125-percent-in-virginia-dmv-department-motor-vehicles-national-bike-safety-month-june-2023>

Tips for Drivers:

1. Pass bicyclists on the road with care; allow at least three feet of clearance.
2. Look for cyclists before opening a car door or pulling out from a parking space.
3. Yield to bicyclists at intersections and as directed by signs and signals.
4. Look for bicyclists before making turns, either left or right.
5. Respect designated bicycle lanes; don't use them for parking, passing or turning.



PORTSMOUTH AREA TRAFFIC FATALITIES REPORT FOR JUNE

There is a 6% reduction for the Portsmouth Area compared to last year's data - 33% of the fatalities were unrestrained, 26% were alcohol-related, and 46% were speed related. The pedestrian fatalities have decreased by 23%, as well as the leveling of Driver/Occupants to 0%. Your continued support in traffic safety is appreciated.



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.



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



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