

Drive Safe Hampton Roads

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Dispatch – October 2023

UPCOMING DATES...



September 29 – DUE: Quarterly Reports from July through to the end of September 2023

October 10 – CMV Regional Check, 7:30 am

October 10 – GIT Packing Day, 10-12, AAA Tidewater VA Second Floor Training Room

October 12 – GIT Kickoff Invitational Breakfast, **RSVP required**, Lake Wright Quality Suites

October 16 – GIT Challenge Begins

October 27-29 – 757 Sober Ride Halloween, 4pm Friday, October 27-Sunday, 4am, October 29

November 1 – John T. Hanna Nominations DUE – covers October 1, 2022-September 30, 2023

November 8 – Steering Committee Meeting, 12:30-2, 757 Room at HRPDC

November 22 – 757 Sober Ride Blackout Wednesday, <https://www.drivesafehr.org/757-sober-ride/>

December 5 – General Business Meeting, 12:30-2, 757 Room @ HRPDC

December 18 – Commercial Motor Carrier (CMV) Driver Appreciation Day to be held at the Monitor Merrimac Inspection Station, Suffolk

REPORTERS NEEDED



Your input is needed for the monthly Dispatch Newsletter. If you have information about your organization, programs, activities, materials or services offered, please share with us. Send any items of interest to DSHR@drivesafehr.org.

AMAZON WISH LIST

Drive Safe HR now has a Wish List, located on Amazon. These are items not covered by grant items. Suggestions welcome. Check the list at https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/PJDOJ5SARBG9?ref=wl_share



Drive Safe Hampton Roads is on LinkedIn

Connect with us at <https://www.linkedin.com/company/drive-safe-hampton-roads/>

RETIRED CHESAPEAKE POLICE DEPT LIEUTENANT JOHNNY DAY



For those of you who know Lt. Day, you will remember he was always willing to lend a helping hand or a listening ear to others. Lt. Day is a two-time winner of DSHR's John T. Hanna Awards, once in 2006 for Enforcement Initiatives and again in 2012 for Traffic Safety Activism. Johnny retired from the Chesapeake Police Department in 2016 after completing a long and rewarding career in law enforcement. He has been diagnosed with cancer and is at Duke Hospital for major surgery. If interested in helping, <https://gofund.me/7f84e9ff>



FACT: In 2022, 63 teens between the ages of 15-19 died on the roads of the Commonwealth with 6 of those fatalities in Hampton Roads, according to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Traffic Records Electronic Data System (TREDS).

NEW POSTERS FROM EVMS



EVMS has a new poster.

All sizes,
including a handy 4 x 9,
can be found at

<https://www.carsafetynow.org/teen-safety/>.

Check out all their easily
printable posters.



KEY COMPONENTS OF AN EFFECTIVE FLEET SAFETY PROGRAM

Because every fleet is unique, safety programs can vary widely from one organization to another. The safety program for a large municipal fleet might be very different than that of a small business with just a dozen vehicles. However, some essential ingredients are common to all effective fleet safety programs. <https://www.automotive-fleet.com/10199289/key-components-of-an-effective-fleet-safety-program>

SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION SAFETY COMMITTEE UPDATE



The Commercial Motor Carrier Law Enforcement officers held their monthly Regional Check on September 12th. The Regional Check is a one-of-a-kind cooperative effort between law enforcement agencies. This is the 7th check held this year. Participating officers hailed from Suffolk Police Department, Virginia Beach Police, Virginia State Police, DMV, Newport News Police, and the Norfolk Police Department. The check yielded 32 inspections with 52 vehicle violations. Nine (9) vehicles and 2 drivers were placed out of service.



Border 2 Border (B2B) was held on September 21st. B2B is a collaborative effort between states and is held on Highway 17 at the Chesapeake border. There were 24 officers working together at the commercial motor vehicle site, completing 38 inspections. There were 40 CMV violations found with 5 vehicles placed out of service. On the main roadway towards North Carolina, Border 2 Border found over 10 violations, including 1 seatbelt violation and 2 licenses under suspension.

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.711231611048772&type=3>

MOCKTAIL OF THE MONTH FOR OCTOBER:



WITCH'S BREW PUNCH

1 quart lime sherbet
1 (2) liter ginger ale, chilled
1 cup pineapple juice
Sliced limes for garnish
Green food coloring, (optional)
Gummy worms, (optional)

Add ginger ale and pineapple juice to a pitcher or punch bowl.
Add food color now, if desired.
Spoon sherbet in before serving and slowly mix.
Pour into cups and garnish with lime slices and gummy worms.
Cackle, Cackle!



FACT:

56 people were killed in 2020 on Halloween night in drunk-driving crashes.



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

I am missing quite a few of you...DMV grants require 25% match documentation of in-kind service hours from the DSHR membership. **DUE NOW: Covering September '23.** Please be sure to collect and send in this information.

SCHOOL TIME TIPS



Tips for Motorists: Be alert and slow down when driving in neighborhoods with school zones. For those school districts returning to campuses, obey the "flashing signal light system" used for school buses. **Yellow flashing lights** indicate the bus is preparing to stop to load or unload children. Motorists should slow down and prepare to stop their vehicles.

School bus safety laws motorists are required to follow include:

- Motorists must stop for stopped school buses with flashing red lights and an extended stop sign when approaching from any direction.
- Motorists must remain stopped until everyone is clear and the bus moves again.
- Motorists must stop whenever the bus is loading or unloading passengers, even if the lights and stop sign are not activated.
- If a school bus is on the opposite side of a median or barrier, motorists aren't required to stop; however, drivers should be prepared for students entering or exiting the school bus and crossing into their lanes.

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.

NHTSA's traffic safety campaigns for 2024 can be located at <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/calendars>.

757 SOBER RIDE

[illegible]

BICYCLE-INVOLVED CRASHES ON THE RISE IN VIRGINIA

- Always wear a properly-fitted helmet.
- Check your bike equipment before heading out.
- Ride in the same direction as traffic.
- Obey traffic signs, signals, and lane markings.
- Wear equipment to protect you and make you more visible to others.



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



ALL MEMBERS: NEED YOUR SUGGESTIONS

Looking for suggestions / financial support for two upcoming events.

One event is the **John T. Hanna Awards**. DSHR would like to hold this event in-person in January 2024. If you have suggestions for who to contact to help support the cost of this event, as well as for a location, please let us know. This would be for either a luncheon or a dinner event.

The second event is the **Get It Together Awards Breakfast**, to be held on March 21. GIT needs a location reasonably close to the tunnels that can handle up to 150 people in attendance.

GET IT TOGETHER CHALLENGE 2023-2024



The **GET IT TOGETHER** (GIT) Challenge is being held from October 16 - February 16.

Drive Safe Hampton Roads, in partnership with AAA Tidewater Virginia, Christopher King Foundation, State Farm®, and the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles, provides the resources and the students teach each other to Buckle Up!

GIT emphasizes educational awareness activities and uses unannounced seat belt observation checks to monitor progress.

We have 18 schools on board this year, hailing from school districts in Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, Williamsburg-James City County, and York County. Many thanks to our partners, Community Liaisons, and volunteers!!

* **Please let us know if you plan to help** on October 10 at the Resource Box and Challenge Kit Packing Day at AAA Tidewater Virginia, 10 am – 12 pm, 5366 Virginia Beach Boulevard, VB 23462. Take the elevator to the second floor and turn left upon exiting the elevator. Go through the double doors and turn right, following the hallway around to the Training Room.

A MESSAGE FROM DMV



Attention Highway Safety Partner,

As part of National Pedestrian Safety Month, we would appreciate your help in reminding our communities of the important role everyone plays in ensuring their neighbors can walk, jog, and roll, easily and safely. Drivers should always be alert and on the lookout for pedestrians and maintain safe speeds. Pedestrians also need to maintain focus and ensure drivers see them before they cross the street.

In addition to National Pedestrian Safety Month, it is important that we also educate our communities on bicycle safety. As bicyclists, it is crucial to wear protective equipment, stay focused and alert, and ride predictably to avoid crashes. Motorists must also do their part to keep bicyclists safe and follow applicable laws.

We ask our partners to share the education and resource materials below on pedestrian and bicycle safety with their communities to help. Please share on your agency's social media pages.

[Everyone is a Pedestrian | Traffic Safety Marketing](#) [Pedestrian Safety: Prevent Pedestrian Crashes | NHTSA](#)
[Pedestrian Safety | Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles](#) [Street Smart \(beststreetsmart.net\)](#)
[Store | DRIVE SMART Virginia \(drivesmartva.org\)](#) [Bicycle Safety | Traffic Safety Marketing](#)
[Bicycle Safety: Bike Safety Tips for Kids and Adults | NHTSA](#)

We thank you for your continued dedication and effort in keeping Virginia's roadways safe.

The 2023 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. <https://drivesafehr.wufoo.com/forms/s1tuupag1r9xj3k/>

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

AWARD CATEGORIES

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

Employer Safety: Presented to 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 to 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 to individuals and/or organizations who encourage the prevention of drunk, drowsy, drugged and/or distracted driving.

Law Enforcement Initiatives: Presented to a law enforcement department and/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 to individuals or organizations who develop educational approaches to the public and/or private sector to promote traffic safety for drivers and riders.

Youth Traffic Safety: Presented to individuals, organizations, and/or programs which educate youth and spread the message regarding the importance of youth traffic safety.

Fire/Emergency Medical Services: Presented to individuals or organizations for actions at crash scenes and/or efforts that have a broader impact on improving at-scene safety and/or survivability and injury reduction for victims.

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. 2022 JOHN T. HANNA AWARD winners are not eligible for 2023 nomination.

Eligible activities, programs or materials are those that were initiated, completed, published, or produced in the period from **October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2023.**

Entry deadline is November 1, 2023.

DANGERS OF DROWSY DRIVING

In 2022, 16 people were killed and 1,298 were injured in 3,144 crashes involving drowsy drivers. With 2023 not over yet, preliminary data shows that 15 people have already been killed and 1,011 were injured in 1,698 crashes involving a drowsy driver.

Please share these resources in your community to help prevent drowsy driving:

- The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) provides tips [[Drowsy Driving: Avoid Falling Asleep Behind the Wheel | NHTSA](#)].
- Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) offers [[Drowsy Driving Quiz | FMCSA \(dot.gov\)](#)] to see if you have fallen victim to this risky behavior on the road.
- Traffic Safety Marketing (TSM) provides [[Drive Awake | Traffic Safety Marketing](#)], an educational toolkit to stop drowsy driving.

COMMERCIAL MOTOR CARRIER DRIVER APPRECIATION DAY COMING DEC 18

Would you like to help support the regional commercial motor carrier driver appreciation day, held this year on December 18? If so, please reach out to DSHR soon. Thank you to Capital Concrete and to the regional motor carrier law enforcement officers for their confirmed support of this event.



TRAFFIC SAFETY MARKETING UPDATE:

In 2021 there were 7,388 pedestrians killed in traffic crashes, a 12.5% increase from the 6,565 pedestrian fatalities in 2020. This is the highest since 1981 when 7,837 pedestrians died in traffic crashes. In 2021 there were an estimated 60,577 pedestrians injured in traffic crashes, an 11% increase from 54,771 pedestrians injured in 2020. On average, a pedestrian was killed every 71 minutes and injured every 9 minutes in traffic crashes in 2021.

Please use these materials to increase awareness about how we can combat pedestrian crashes in our communities. <https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/pedestrian-safety/everyone-pedestrian>



FACT: Seat belt use is the most effective way to protect people and reduce fatalities in motor vehicle crashes, yet only 75.7% of Virginians wear them.



STATISTICALLY, SCHOOL BUSES ARE THE SAFEST WAY TO TRANSPORT SCHOOL CHILDREN.

The school bus loading and unloading area is called the “Danger Zone”. Specifically, this is any side of the bus where a child may not be seen by the bus driver and, therefore, is in the most danger.

- From 2011 and 2020, there were 1.6 times more fatalities among pedestrians (183) than occupants of school buses (113) in school-bus-related crashes.
- A total of 218 school-age children (18 and younger) died in school-bus-related crashes during that period, either as occupants of school buses or other vehicles, or on foot or bike.
- Of the 218 deaths, 85 were children who were walking.

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

