



September Safety Info

- Back To School Cautions
- Deer Season Cautions
- Blinding Glare Season
- Participate in Close Call Reporting

BACK TO SCHOOL – SAFELY

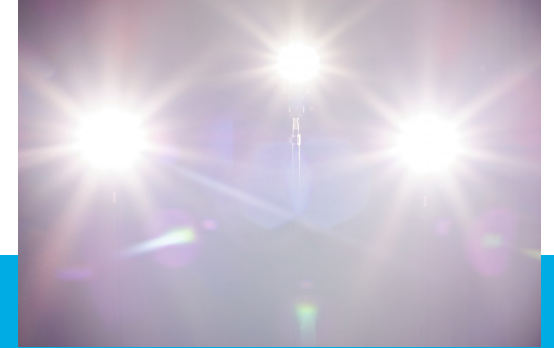


- Early AM school bus routes – be familiar with your route & crossings.
- School zones and speed reduction times are typically posted and periodically monitored when in effect.
- Watch for pedestrians and bicyclists at all times in and around school zones
- Crosswalks marked & not – kids will walk practically anywhere
- Commuter traffic increase due to bus driver shortage
- Late afternoon – activities & athletics, stay alert in School Zones
- Youthful Drivers – more than 2 persons in a vehicle could indicate a distracted driver. Give sufficient clearance
- College students- hauling furniture on interstate in overloaded vehicle. Mattress, furniture & road debris resulting; fatigue or impaired. Stay Alert.

DEER SEASON - DRIVER SAFETY TIPS

- 'It's that time of year' – the deer population is very active starting around now.
- Early AM, late afternoon, evening – use appropriate caution.
- Known habitat areas are generally posted however this is not always reliable.
- If you see 1 animal, there is usually a herd nearby.
- **Immediately slow down** and scan for others. Deer are highly unpredictable.
- **Never swerve at speed** on a 2 lane road to avoid a hit. There is insufficient margin of error. Immovable objects include trees, oncoming vehicles.
- Decrease your travel speed for more perception & reaction time, shorter braking distance; and less damage if there is a hit.
- As a general rule, DO NOT EXCEED 45 mph on 2 lane undivided road.

'GLARE SEASON' ADVISORY



- Blinding Glare is a serious hazard in early to mid fall and again in the spring
- It will begin early AM and again through the afternoon.
- This is also the time deer are most active. But no one told the deer about it.
- Keep glass and mirrors clean to minimize distortion or visual impairment: If the glare is in your face, some adjustments to driving behavior are needed.
- #1 SLOW DOWN; # 2 Get the Oakleys on; #3 Use the visor; #4 Try adjusting your position to offset the angle...
- No amount of pedestrian high visibility will show up. REMEMBER: when the sun is at your back, persons / other drivers approaching may not even see you. Allow for safe clearance.
- Double down in School Zones or populated areas. Early morning walkers, strollers, bikers, joggers, etc. are common; use appropriate caution.

REPORT CLOSE CALLS!

- **Report Close Calls**- this is how our organization LEARNS TO PROTECT OURSELVES. Also known as 'Lessons Learned'.
- The Close Call you report today could mean an accident avoided next week.
- **Active engagement and pursuit of Continuous Improvement** in our work processes are better indicators- ask yourself what SAFETY means to YOU?
- Contribute your ideas for improvement at safety meetings, in the PPE section at Home Depot, the Tool Guy
- Just because that's the way it's 'always been done' does not signify permanence or correctness.
- Safety Suggestions? Speak Up!! There is always a 'Better Way' !