

# Seasonal Driving Tip-April 2017



**"Breathing Life Into Safety"**

## RISK MANAGEMENT PRESENTS

# SPRING DRIVING: DISTRACTED DRIVING

### Upcoming Driver Safety Classes:

#### **Distracted Driver:**

04/18/2017

MSB, 16th Fl. Rm X,  
10a-12p

05/11/2017

OPB, 7th Fl. Rm 105-107 10a-12p

#### **Rules of the Road:**

04/27/2017

OPB, 7th Fl. Rm 105-107 10a-12p

05/23/2017

OPB, 7th Fl. Rm 105-107  
10a-12p

#### **Defensive Driver:**

05/18/2017

MSB, 16th Fl., Rm Y,  
8: 30a-12: 30p

MSB 1401 JFK Blvd.  
OPB 1515 Arch Street

The National Safety Council observes April as *Distracted Driving Awareness Month*. Please review and share the following information to help raise awareness regarding Distracted Driving.

### **WHAT IS DISTRACTED DRIVING ?**

Distracted driving is any activity that could divert a person's attention away from the primary task of driving. All distractions endanger driver, passenger, and bystander safety. These types of distractions include:

- ⇒ Texting
- ⇒ Using a cell phone
- ⇒ Eating and drinking
- ⇒ Talking to passengers
- ⇒ Grooming
- ⇒ Reading, including directions
- ⇒ Using a navigation system
- ⇒ Watching a video
- ⇒ Adjusting radio, CD / MP3 player

were injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted drivers.

During daylight hours, approximately 660,000 drivers are using cell phones while driving. That creates enormous potential for deaths and injuries on U.S. roads. Teens were the largest age group reported as distracted at the time of fatal crashes.

### **ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

The percentage of drivers text-messaging or visibly manipulating handheld devices increased from 1.7 percent in 2013 to 2.2 percent in 2015. Since 2007, young drivers (age 16 to 24) have been observed manipulating electronic devices at higher rates than older drivers. Data shows the average time your eyes are off the road while texting is five seconds. When traveling at 55mph, that's enough time to cover the length of a football field blindfolded.

### **IS HANDS-FREE SAFER TO USE WHILE DRIVING?**

To date, the research indicates that the cognitive distraction of having a hands free phone conversation causes drivers to miss the important visual and audio cues that would ordinarily help you avoid a crash.

### **STATE LAWS**

Currently, 46 states, D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam and the U.S. Virgin Islands ban text messaging for all drivers. All but 5 have primary enforcement. Of the 4 states without an all driver texting ban, 2 prohibit text messaging by novice drivers, 1 restricts school bus drivers from texting and the other has none at all.

Come to our Distracted Driver course to learn more...



**Is it still LOL?**

For registration go to LMS at:  
<https://philadelphia.smarteru.com>

All questions contact  
Daryl Holsey at:  
[Daryl.Holsey@Phila.gov](mailto:Daryl.Holsey@Phila.gov)

For other trainings visit:  
[www.phila.gov/risk](http://www.phila.gov/risk)  
(see calendar near bottom of page)

For more driving tips see:  
<http://www.nsc.org/learn/NSC-Initiatives/Pages/distracted-driving-awareness-month.aspx>



Because texting requires visual, manual, and cognitive attention from the driver, it is by far the most alarming distraction.

The best way to end distracted driving is to educate all Americans about the danger it poses. Please take a moment to learn more at [www.Distracted.gov](http://www.Distracted.gov). Together, we can help save lives.

### **HOW DANGEROUS IS IT?**

Some people don't realize how dangerous distracted driving is. Others know about the risks of texting and talking while driving, but still choose to do so anyway. They make the mistake of thinking the statistics don't apply to them, that they can defy the odds. In 2015 alone, 3,477 people were killed, and 391,000

### **6 OUT OF 10 teen crashes involve driver distraction.**

