

Work Zone Safety Awareness Tool Box Safety Talk

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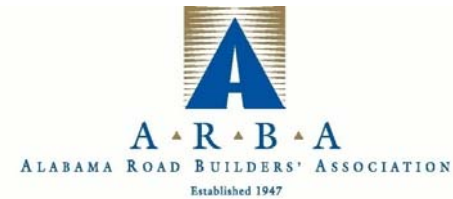


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Alliance Goals

- To prevent highway construction and utility worker fatalities and serious injuries at work zone and construction sites.
- Educate exposed workers about highway work zone workplace safety and health.
- Strengthen public knowledge on highway and work zone hazards.



Work Zone Facts

- In 2008, 720 work zone fatalities occurred in the U.S:
 - One fatality every 12 hours nationwide (2.0 per day)
 - One injury every 17 minutes nationally (86 per day)
- Work zone fatalities decreased by 14% and injuries decreased 25% from 2007
- More than 31,079 people are injured each year as a result of motor vehicle crashes in work zones.
- Of the 720 work zone fatalities, 550 were in construction zones, 69 were in maintenance zones, 14 were in utility zones, and 87 were in an unknown type work zone.
- Currently all states have adopted laws that increase penalties for speeding or committing other violations in work zones.
 - 33 states double fines for speeding or other violation
 - 23 states require workers to be present to enforce penalty increase

Source: National Safety Council analysis of data from Nation Highway Traffic Safety Administration Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) and General Estimates System (GES)



Work Zone Facts By The Numbers

	Total	Vehicle occupants	Pedestrians	Pedalcyclists	Other Nonmotorists
Killed	720	587	119	5	9
Injured	31,079	29,120	1,216	706	37

Source: National Safety Council analysis of data from Nation Highway Traffic Safety Administration Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) and General Estimates System (GES)

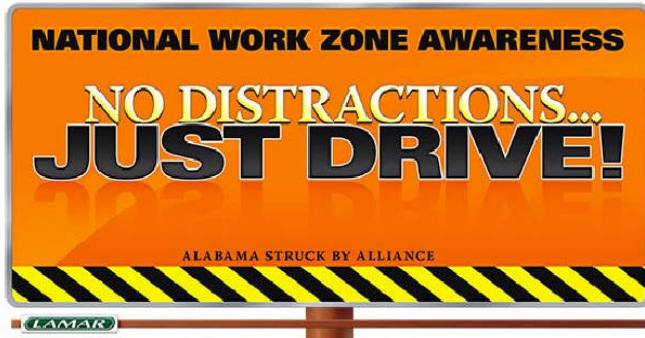


Struck-By Causes in a Work Zone:

- Distracted Drivers
- Blind Spots
- Night Work
- Run Overs & Back Overs



Distracted Drivers





What Is Distracted Driving?

There are three main types of distraction:

- **Visual** — taking your eyes off the road
- **Manual** — taking your hands off the wheel
- **Cognitive** — taking your mind off what you're doing

Distracted driving is any non-driving activity a person engages in that has the potential to distract him or her from the primary task of driving and increase the risk of crashing.

While all distractions can endanger drivers' safety,

TEXTING

is the most alarming because it involves all three types of distraction.



Distracted Drivers – The Facts

- **Cell phone** use has grown exponentially from 1988 through 2009. About 89 percent, or approximately 277 million of all Americans, have a cell phone, according to CTIA – The Wireless Association
- 77 percent of people surveyed reported that they talk on the phone while driving at least some of the time.
- Drivers who use hand-held devices while driving are **four times as likely** to get into crashes.
- The portion of drivers reportedly distracted at the time of the fatal crashes **increased from 7 percent in 2005 to 11 percent in 2009.**
 - In 2009, 5,474 people were killed in U.S. roadways and
 - An estimated additional 448,000 were injured in motor vehicle crashes that were reported to have involved distracted driving.



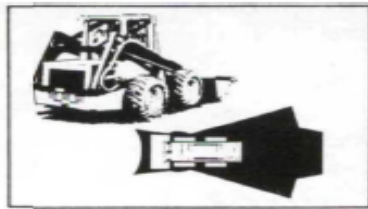
Distracted Driving

To view the The US Department of Transportation's Website
addressing Distracting Driving visit:

<http://www.distraction.gov/faces/index.html>

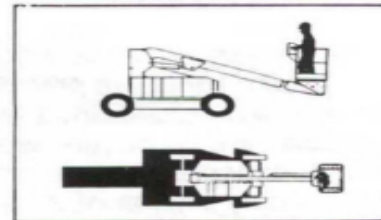


Blind Spots



Blind Spots

- Treat equipment and vehicles with caution
- Stay outside a safety circle around equipment
- Stay clear of vehicles, know the traffic control plan
- Stay in constant communication with operators by radio and/or eye contact
- Don't approach equipment until you have communicated with the operator and they acknowledge you
- Use spotters when you must work with your back to traffic or equipment
-





Blind Spots

- Ensure back up alarms are on all mobile equipment
- When possible, plan project to allow for drive-through operations that will limit the need for vehicles to back up
- The signal person must know the operator's blind spots and remain visible to the operator at all times
- The signal person must use clearly understood hand signals or standard traffic control devices
- When operating equipment know the blind spots and swing radius
- Reduce foot traffic in areas where mobile equipment will be working; establish designated travel areas with barricades if possible



Night Work



Night operations change the work environment –

On the worksite -

- Poor visibility for both motorists and workers
- Communicate between shifts
- Impaired or drowsy drivers

Physical and social disruptions –

- Sleep disruption
- Risk of injury from drowsiness
- Impaired family/social relationships



Runovers and Backovers

Remain alert at all times

Check surroundings often, listen for warnings

Keep a safe distance from traffic

Stay behind protective barriers, where possible

Look out for each other, warn co-workers





Best Practices for Operator Safety

Unload and operate equipment only if qualified

Inspect equipment before use

Test backup alarm and other safety devices

Know blind spots and swing radius

Use seatbelts

Use 3 points of contact when entering and exiting equipment

Look for other moving equipment and vehicles

Wipe up grease and fluids on equipment walking/working surfaces



High Visibility Safety Apparel



Required for all workers on roadways

Ensure visibility of worker from 360 degrees

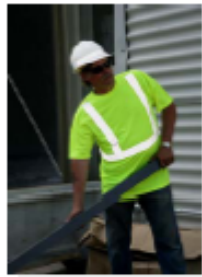
Inspect regularly to ensure color has not faded or retroreflective properties are not lost

Consider seasonal variations in landscape and foliage when choosing colors for worker apparel

Increase visibility by using high-visibility arm bands and hats, and vests with strobes



ANSI/ISEA 107 – 2010 Compliant High Visibility Safety Apparel



Example of non compliant vest



- Choose background material colors to contrast the worker to their work environment
- Worker visibility can be effectively increased by wearing class 3 high-visibility safety apparel
 - class E trousers worn in combination with a class 2 vest or tee shirt equals a class 3 ensemble
 - arm/leg bands, caps/hats and hard hats can add to delineation of the human shape
 - compliant short or long sleeved tee shirts (class 2 and/or 3)

If Applicable:



Utility Operations

Includes:

All entities/agencies that perform utility work, such as departments of transportation's maintenance divisions, local county and city road agencies.

Utility work involving electric, gas, water and telecommunications

- Takes place on urban and rural roadways
- Typically stationary work
- Occupies a location more than 1 hour but less than 12
- Impacts traffic flow



Above Ground Utilities

Use extreme caution and keep your distance !!!

- Ensure lines are marked, flagged and shielded
- Assume it is live, until tested – have it de-energized and visibly grounded
- If it must remain energized, keep equipment and load at least 10 feet away and use a spotter to warn the equipment operator
- Post signs at ground level to mark safe distance
- Make all drivers and workers who enter area aware of overhead lines
- Operators make a safe route for repeated travel
- Slow down

If Applicable:



Surveyor Protection from the Public

- Wear high visibility vests at all times and other appropriate personal protective equipment during operations where you are exposed to hazardous conditions.
- Face traffic when working on the traveled way of a divided road or shoulders of highways. If not possible, have a co-worker act as a lookout.
- When working between two-way traffic, stand parallel to the traveled way and use a co-worker as a lookout.
- Don't make sudden moves that may confuse a motorist and cause them to react suddenly and cause injury.
- Avoid interrupting traffic as much as possible.
- Minimize the crossing of traffic lanes on undivided highways.



Surveyor Protection from the Public

- Protect your crew with the use of approved barriers to shield them from traffic.
- Whenever possible, place a truck-mounted attenuator between your workers and traffic.
- When working near a heavily traveled highway, or working parallel to traffic, be careful to keep level rods, range poles, and such from extending into a lane of traffic.
- Take special care when working on wet pavement in an active traffic area.
- Install warning signs prior to the start of all survey work that is on pavement and within 15 feet of the edge of the traveled way. Use them the entire time you are working in traffic. Since surveyors constantly move on the highway, be sure to move warning signs as the work progresses.



YOU ARE ALSO THE PUBLIC

Tips to Remember When YOU Drive in a Work Zone

- **EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED!**
-- Reduced speed limits, lane changes, workers on or near road.
- **SLOW DOWN!**
-- Obey posted speed limits.
- **DON'T TAILGATE! KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU AND THE CAR AHEAD OF YOU!**
-- Rear end collisions - most common crash in a work zone
- **KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOUR VEHICLE AND THE WORKERS AND THEIR EQUIPMENT!**
- **PAY ATTENTION TO THE SIGNS!**
-- Warning signs help drivers move safely through the work zone.
-- Observe signs until you see one saying you've left the work zone.



- **OBEY ROAD CREW FLAGGERS!**
Flaggers know what is best for moving traffic safely and have the same authority as a sign – you can be cited for disobeying their directions.
- **STAY ALERT AND MINIMIZE DISTRACTIONS!**
Avoid changing the radio or using cell phones while driving through a work zone.
- **KEEP UP WITH THE TRAFFIC FLOW!**
Motorists help maintain traffic flow and speeds by merging smoothly. Don't slow to "gawk" at road work equipment and crews.
- **SCHEDULE ENOUGH TIME TO DRIVE SAFELY!**
Expect delays. Leave early to reach your destination on time. Check radio, TV and websites for work zone delays.
- **BE PATIENT AND STAY CALM!**
Work zones aren't there to inconvenience you.

And

Don't Text and Drive

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for partial information included in this document.



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