

Don't be THAT driver; Work Zone Awareness Week is April 11 - 15

April 11-15 is National Work Zone Awareness Week. This year the theme is "Don't be THAT driver. Work on safety. Get home safely. Every day."

National Work Zone Awareness Week is an annual spring campaign held at the start of construction season to encourage drivers to

use extra caution when driving through work zones. This event was founded in 1999 by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and the American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA).


National statistics show that each year about 600 people die in work zones throughout the United States; 85% of those fatalities are drivers and their passengers. According to the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT), between 2010 and 2015, 4,130 people were injured in Missouri work zones and 61 people were killed. In 2015, 16 crashes occurred in Springfield work zones, with 3 injuries reported.



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2016 National Work Zone Awareness

Don't Be THAT Driver!



**Work on Safety.
Get Home Safely.
Every Day.**

Main Offices:

Busch Building
840 Boonville Ave., First Floor
Springfield, MO 65802

Transportation

Management Center:

Visit www.OzarksTraffic.com for
Springfield regional traffic info.

Traffic Safety Programs

The Department of Public Works offers a variety of programs and services that engage citizens in traffic safety initiatives.

The Bike Safety

Program includes maps and safety information on how to use Springfield's more than 60 miles of streets designated as bike routes.



The School Safety

Program includes the Traffic Control Manual for School Crossing Protection, School Walking Route Maps for each elementary school in the Springfield R-12 School District and signalized school crosswalks equipped with "kid friendly" pedestrian push buttons and education signage.

The Drive 25 Program

helps reduce speeding on residential streets by allowing citizens to serve as models of safe driving. The Drive 25 Program encourages motorists to drive the legal speed limit in their neighborhood and also positively change motorist behavior throughout our community.



The Drive Responsibly Campaign

teaches drivers about the risks of following other vehicles too closely, yielding improperly, speeding and distractions.

Connect with us: CityofSGF



Learn more about how you can be involved in traffic safety efforts:

(417) 864-1980 or www.springfieldmo.gov/traffic

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The top five contributing factors for work zone crashes in 2015 were following too closely, inattention, improper lane use (changing lanes), failing to yield, and driving too fast for conditions.

Follow these tips to stay safe in work zones:

• **Expect the Unexpected**

Normal speed limits may be reduced, traffic lanes may be changed, and people may be working on or near the road.

• **Don't Speed**

Follow the posted speed limits and adjust for weather conditions. Don't tailgate and don't change lanes.

• **Leave Room**

The most common crash in a highway work zone is the rear-end collision. Leave adequate braking room between your vehicle and the one ahead of you. Count out at least two seconds from the time the car ahead of you passes an object and the time your own car passes that object. Also, keep a safe distance between your vehicle and traffic barriers, trucks, construction equipment and workers.

• **Obey Flaggers and Warning Signs**

The flagger knows what is best for moving traffic as quickly and safely as possible through the work zone.

• **Pay Attention**

Dedicate your full attention to the roadway. Turn down the radio and stay off your cell phone.

• **Keep up with Traffic Flow**

Motorists can help maintain traffic flow and posted speeds by merging as soon as possible and taking turns.



• **Expect Delays**

Use the MoDOT traveler information map at traveler.modot.org/map and other available information to keep yourself informed about construction on your route. Leave early, if necessary, to arrive at your destination on time. Consider using an alternate route that bypasses construction zones.

• **Be Patient!**

Keep your cool and don't rush. Remember, the temporary inconvenience of a construction zone will pay off with greatly improved roads soon.

To view current highway work zones, visit traveler.modot.org/map. For a live view of Springfield-area traffic flow and incidents visit www.ozarkstraffic.info.

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