

VERMONT

GOVERNOR'S HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM

Monthly Newsletter

May / June 2016

Governors Strategic Highway Safety Transition Team awarded Highway Division's "2015 Team of the Year"

April 5, 2015, the Governor's Highway Safety Program transferred from the Department of Public Safety to the Agency of Transportation. Through significant organizational changes, the team persevered throughout the year to keep the programs running, started the next years' granting cycle, and then closed out the previous year's program. The crowning achievement of this group was to submit

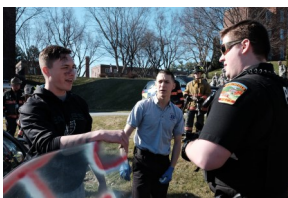


GHSP Staff - Scott Davidson, Danielle Record, Evelyn McFarlane, Betsy Ross, James Baraw Highway Safety Data Unit - Mandy White F&A Grants Unit - Coleen Hale, Rose Lessard, Pam Sargent, Pam Pembroke F&A Accounts Payable - Renea Bordeau Contract Administration - Bonnie Sanders, Tricia Scribner Highway Division Business Office - Pam James, Donna Luce and Donna Holden

the 90 plus page year-end report to NHTSA by the due date December 31, 2015. This is a remarkable achievement for a group that has been learning the process while operating this important program. Safety is the core of the VTrans mission; this team helped take this program to a new level. Great Job to all involved, and thanks for being a part of the VTrans team!!

Northfield Emergency Services and Orange County Sherriff's conduct joint training at Norwich University

April was National Distracted Driving Month. Northfield Police (NPD), Northfield Fire, EMS, and Norwich University EMS, worked in conjunction with Orange



Top picture - NPD Officer questions a DUI subject. Bottom picture - Northfield Police work with the Youth Safety Council of Vermont's - Turn Off Texting Program at Norwich University. Right picture - OCS give demo during DUI class at Norwich University

County Sheriff's Department (OCS) to provided safety education for Norwich University (NU) and Northfield High school (NHS) students. Through classroom sessions, and demonstration, held on the NU campus, instructors covered the risks associated with Distracted and Impaired Driving culminating with a mock DUI crash. In addition to these demonstrations, instructors also conducted a Distracted Driving course in coordination the Youth Safety Council of Vermont's - "Turn Off Texting Program". Overall, 100 students attended to learn about the risks and implications associated with Distracted and Impaired Driving. **Excellent Job!**



From the 2016 NHTSA Campaign Calendar

May 16th - June 3rd
Click It or Ticket,
National Mobilization



May is "Motorcycle Safety Month"
Remember "Share the Road with motorcycles and Scooters"



June is national,
"Ride to Work Month"

Our Mission Statement

Working toward the goal of "Zero Deaths" by promoting highway safety awareness through education and enforcement, thereby reducing crashes, saving lives, and improving the overall quality of life for those using Vermont's roadways.

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VHSA Announces JoyRyde

Please help celebrate and share a Vermont Highway Safety Alliance milestone! The Vermont produced 'JoyRyde' smartphone application is now available to the public. This application incentivizes driving without distraction. JoyRyde is now live for Apple and Android based operating systems, and it can be found at the *iTunes Store* and *Google Play Store*.

Vermont State Police attend the 2016 GMTA Bus Rodeo

Sergeant Perkins and Trooper Gould of the Vermont State Police attended Green Mountain Transit Authority's Fifth Annual, "Bus Rodeo Day." This was a full day event held at the Barre City Auditorium, designed to give bus drivers a chance to hone their skills and learn more about highway safety practices. VSP had a Highway Safety information booth where educational materials were handed out to members attending the competition as well as to spectators and the general public. In addition, field sobriety exercises were administered and performed by members, spectators and the general public while they wore fatal vision goggles.



Left - Trooper Gould and Sgt. Perkins posing with one of the driving course Judges
Right - Trooper Gould demonstrating field sobriety exercises with a participant wearing the fatal vision goggles.

May Click It or Ticket 2016

On behalf of the Governor's Highway Safety Program, we would like to express our appreciation to all of the Law Enforcement agencies participating in the 2016 May CIOT mobilization. If you have any questions, please contact [Tom Fields](#), GHSP Law Enforcement Liaison, at (802)-375-5913 Thank you!

GHSA Alarmed by Data Linking Speed Limit Increase to Fatalities

(GHSA) Director of Federal Relations Erik Strickland

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Governors Highway Safety Association (GHSA) is troubled by [new research from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety \(IIHS\)](#) that illustrates how increasing speed limits in states across the country between 1993 and 2013 have led to 33,000 fatalities on U.S. roadways.

Speeding is often a forgotten issue in highway safety. But the truth is that excessive speed contributes to a tremendous proportion of all traffic fatalities. In 2014, there were 9,262 people who died in speeding-related crashes (28% of all fatalities).

Increasing speed limits has the potential to exacerbate this problem. We know that crashes are more deadly as speeds increase. In addition, most drivers treat maximum speeds as a minimum target. Past research has shown that as posted speed limits are raised, drivers will exceed these limits, and more fatal crashes will result. This new research reinforces earlier studies and provides clear evidence of the negative safety implications from increasing speed limits.

Rather than increase speed limits, GHSA encourages states and communities to vigorously enforce existing speed limits through both traditional means, using police officers to detect violations, and by judicious use of speed cameras, which have been proven effective at reducing speeds and crashes.

GHSA publishes speed state maximum speed limits on its website at www.ghsa.org/html/stateinfo/laws/speedlimit_laws.html

SAVE the DATE
VERMONT HIGHWAY SAFETY ALLIANCE 4TH ANNUAL MEETING & CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 26, 2016
MOUNT SNOW RESORT, DOVER, VT

Join professionals in Education Engineering Enforcement Emergency Services to address highway safety issues Speed Distraction Infrastructure Impaired Driving Occupant Protection Vulnerable Road Users



NO COST | INCLUDES LUNCH | HIGHWAYSAFETY.VERMONT.GOV

For more information about the VHSA Meeting and Conference, contact:

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Deaths on Vermont Roadways

Year	Deaths
2008	73
2009	73
2010	71
2011	54
2012	77
2013	71
2014	44
2015	57

24 Deaths as of May 26th, 2016

NHTSA Motorcycle Facts

In 2014, 4,486 motorcyclists lost their lives on America's roads. Ten times more unhelmeted motorcyclists died in states without universal helmet laws than in states with such laws (1,565 deaths vs. 151)

[Motorcyclist Fatalities by State](#) (2009-2013)

- **Helmet Use** NHTSA estimates that helmets saved the lives of 1,630 motorcyclists in 2013. If all motorcyclists had worn helmets, an additional 715 lives could have been saved.
- **Licensing Issues** Twenty-five percent of motorcycle riders involved in fatal crashes in 2013 were riding their vehicles without valid motorcycle licenses at the time of the collisions.
- **Impaired Riding** In 2013, there were 4,399 motorcycle riders killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes. Of those, 1,232 (28%) were alcohol-impaired (BAC of .08 or higher).
- **Speeding** In 2013, 34 percent of all motorcycle riders involved in fatal crashes were speeding.

Learn More Motorcycle Safety facts at National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Governor's Highway Safety Program

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Visit our Website...

www.ghsp.vermont.gov

If you have comments or suggestions for our newsletter, please send them to james.baraw@vermont.gov.