

VERMONT GOVERNOR'S HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAM

Monthly Newsletter

February / March 2016

2017 Grant Workshop Signup is Now Open

The FFY 2017 grants process will be starting in March with workshops. See back page for details, and a link to the "NEW" webpage for "Grant Guidance".

Super Bowl Sunday Impaired Driving Enforcement

Press Release - Tom Fields GHSP - LEL. On Sunday, February 7th members of the DUI Task Force Team were activated to conduct saturation patrols and checkpoints for the purpose of enforcing impaired driving statutes. The DUI Task Force Teams were made up of officers and troopers from all over the state who were selected to be on the team based on their history of exceptional highway safety enforcement efforts.

Three DUI Task Force Teams of several officers each conducted enforcement details in three large geographic areas of the state. Cities, towns and villages in Chittenden, Rutland and Washington Counties were the focus of the evening patrols. The locations of the details were determined by using crash data and impaired driving arrest data provided by the Vermont Office of Highway Safety. Patrols were conducted from approximately 6:00 PM until Midnight.

There were a total of 121 vehicles stopped and contacts made with 212 motorists and passengers. Officers identified five designated drivers. There were four arrests for suspected Impaired Driving, four arrests for Driving with a Suspended License, and one other criminal arrest. Traffic violations included 25 speeding violations and 4 other traffic violations.

It was hoped that this High Visibility Enforcement effort would encourage Super Bowl enthusiasts to enjoy the game, and drive responsibly.

Project RoadSafe

Project RoadSafe, a workplace driver safety program, is managed by the Associated General Contractors of Vermont under a grant from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) through the GHSP

The mission of Project RoadSafe is to help Vermont businesses create a safe workplace for their drivers, to decrease distracted driving, to reduce impaired driving (both alcohol and drugs), and increase the use of seatbelts.

This program provides driver training using the four-hour National Safety Council (NSC) Distracted Driving Course, the four-hour NSC "Alive @ 25" Course, and a one-hour Driver/Operator Safety Refresher Course.

In 2015, Project RoadSafe reached more than 2,000 people with its driver safety programs. For more information on Project RoadSafe, see AGC's web page for [Project RoadSafe](#), contact [Norman James](#) by email or at 802-223-2374.

From the 2016 NHTSA Campaign Calendar

March 17:

St. Patrick's Day
*Buzzed Driving is
Drunk Driving*



Coming in April:
**National Distracted
Driver Awareness
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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New GHSP Webpage

The Vermont GHSP website has received a makeover! Our new webpage has all the same up-to-date information, with a new streamlined look. Our goal is to provide timely, high quality information to our partners and the public on a more easily accessible platform to assist people and agencies in achieving their highway safety goals.

GHSP Newest Team Member

Katina Cummings — Grants Specialist

Katina comes to us from a long career in non-profit management with extensive experience in grant development and management. She is supporting the GHSP staff in revising the Law Enforcement grants application (DUI, Occupant Protection) and application process. Her assignment also includes updating GHSP Policies and Procedures. She is thrilled to join the GHSP team. Contact her at 802-828-0232 or katina.cummings@vermont.gov



Drunk Driving Facts

- On average, a drunk driver will drive under the influence 80 times before their first arrest.
- Every 51 minutes in America, someone is killed in a drunk driving crash. That equates to 27 people every day.
- Someone is injured in a drunk driving incident every 120 seconds.
- Between 50 to 75% of the people who have had their licenses revoked due to driving under the influence drive illegally without their license.
- Since the early 1980s, alcohol-related traffic deaths per population have been cut in half with the greatest proportional declines among persons 16-20 years old.
- Kids and teens who get involved with alcohol at a young age are 7 times more likely to be involved in an alcohol-related crash

Dosomething.org, 2016

Crash Data Public Query Tool

VTran's Office of Highway Safety rolled out the [Crash Data Public Query Tool](#) to users last summer. This tool is designed to be a fast and reliable data source for crash related statistical information provided to the public, state agencies, and businesses. For questions about the site or its content, email [Mandy White](mailto:Mandy.White), Crash Data Analyst at VTrans, or call her at (802) 595-9341.

NHTSA Impaired Driving on St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day has ended in tragedy for too many Americans because of drunk drivers getting behind the wheel. Help NHTSA spread the word about the consequences of drinking and driving after celebrating the luck of the Irish. Use the [Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign materials](#) from NHTSA's Traffic Safety Marketing to remind people that law enforcement will be on the lookout for impaired drivers.

As one of the country's most popular holidays, St. Patrick's Day has long been celebrated by Americans with Irish ancestry and many more who just want to partake in the festivities. Unfortunately, March 17 has become one of the nation's deadliest holidays. According to NHTSA, during the 2014 St. Patrick's Day holiday period more than a quarter (28%) of all motor vehicle crash fatalities involved drunk drivers. The early hours of March 18 didn't fare much better: between midnight and 6:00 a.m., nearly half of all crash fatalities involved drunk drivers. In fact, from 2010 to 2014, almost three-fourths of the drunk-driving fatalities during this holiday period involved drivers who had BACs well above the .08 limit, with 266 drunk-driving fatalities total.

NHTSA wants to remind everyone celebrating the holiday this year, that [Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving](#). Twitter Chat: **Buzzed Driving**. You can get additional Saint Patrick's Day Impaired Driving Prevention campaign materials from [Traffic Safety Marketing](#).

Grant Application Workshops in March

The GHSP will conduct the 2017 Law Enforcement & Educational Grant Application Workshops throughout Vermont in late March and early April. We will review the necessary requirements and answer your questions to assist you in obtaining a successful grant award for your organization or agency in 2017.

Visit to the [GHSP website](#) to get the most up-to-date information on the grant process timeline, workshops scheduled, and grant guidance.

Deaths on Vermont Roadways

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

7 Deaths as of March 7th, 2016

Governors Highway Safety Program

Governors Highway Safety Program
Agency of Transportation
One National Life Drive
Montpelier, Vermont 05633

Visit our Website...

www.ghsp.vermont.gov

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