

Safe Driving Teen Monthly Bulletin

Volume 147, Issue 113

July 2014

Summer Months Are Most Dangerous For Teen Drivers



Now that summer is here, it's important to remember the dangers faced by teen drivers during the summer months. Traffic fatality statistics have long shown that the death rate for teens rises significantly for teen drivers and their passengers during the summer

Sponsored by
LowestPriceTrafficSchool.com

1-800-Pay-1495

Published by the National Safety Commission
For Teens and their Parents



months. Twenty-nine percent of all the teen drivers age 15 to 20 who were killed in traffic collisions in 2012 were killed during the months of June, July, and August. Studies by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) show that the period between Memorial Day and Labor Day is the most dangerous time for teen drivers. With up to three months of largely free, unsupervised time on their hands, teens have many more chances to get into trouble while driving.

Parents can be pro-active in preventing their child from becoming a summertime driving statistic in a number of ways:

- If this is your teen's first summer with an operator's license, consider limiting his or her driving time.
- Set consistent curfews and enforce them.
- Limit the number of passengers your teen can carry.
- Prevent your teen from riding as a passenger of a teen driver with more than one other passenger.
- Ban not only texting but any type of cell phone use while driving; they must pull over and stop to use a cell phone.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1	Summer Months are Most Dangerous for Teen Drivers
2	Disturbing New Study On Teen Driving Behavior
3	Most Important Vehicle Control Device
4	Top Five Used Car Choices For Teens
5	When Your Car Stalls On Train Tracks



\$2 Off!
Special Offer!

Enter coupon code

NL3726

Valid until July 31, 2014
Go to www.LowestPriceTrafficSchool.com
and save today!

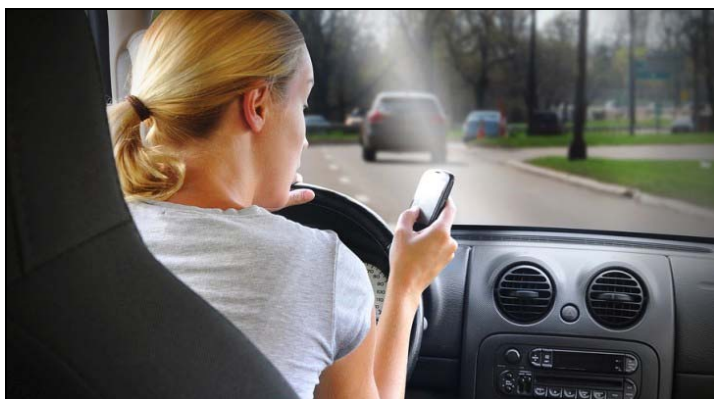
- Ensure that your teen gets plenty of sleep.
- Give your teen chores or suggest a summer job to keep him or her busy and off the road.

To help ensure that your rules are followed, negotiate a “teen driving contract” with your teen. Make sure that the rules are clear and the consequences for breaking them are well understood.

Source: <http://www.lowestpricetrafficschool.com> ♦

Disturbing New Study On Teen Driving Behavior

Safe Kids Worldwide, an organization devoted to child safety, along with the General Motors Foundation recently released a survey on teen driving behaviors. In talking with 1,000 teens, they discovered, among other things that:



- One in four teens does not wear seat belts.
- Teens who do not wear seat belts are more likely to say that they text while driving than those who do.
- Thirty-nine percent of teens say they have ridden with a teen driver who was texting.
- More than half have ridden in a car with a parent

who was using a cellphone.

- Forty-nine percent of teens feel unsafe when riding with a teen driver.

Ask The Driving School Instructor: Most Important Vehicle Control Device

Question: “What is the most important control device on a car or vehicle?”

Answer: Most people would answer the steering wheel or gas and brake pedals but none of those items are very effective at controlling a car if the tires aren’t in contact with the road. The tires are actually the most important control device on the car.

That portion of the tire that is in contact with the road is known as the tire’s “footprint.” The larger the footprint, the more control you have over the vehicle. If you are speeding, there’s an aerodynamic force on the car that makes the rear end rise up off the road, decreasing the tires’ footprint. If you should encounter a curve or an obstacle in the road, the smaller footprint could cause you to lose control of the car.

When driving on gravel roads, your tire’s footprint is even smaller because it is only in contact with the tips of rocks instead of the solid footprint that would be experienced on a paved road. It’s much easier to lose control of a vehicle on a gravel road so maintaining a lower speed is very important.

In a heavy rain where there is standing water on the

Ready to get your Learners Permit?



Take the Drug & Alcohol Course at
LowestPriceTrafficSchool.com

road, your tires may not be able to squeeze out all the water through the openings in the tread. In this situation, known as “hydroplaning”, the tires can ride up on top of the water like a water ski. In a hydroplaning situation, your tires will lose all contact with the road’s surface and you will lose control of the car. Hydroplaning can start at speeds as low as 35 mph but is more common at speeds above 55 mph. If you see standing water on the road, you should slow and keep a firm grip on the wheel. If you should hydroplane, don’t hit the brakes! Instead, take your foot off the gas and steer the car in the direction you want it to go until the car slows on its own.

Read More: <http://www.lowestpricetrafficschool.com> ♦



Top Five Used Car Choices For Teens

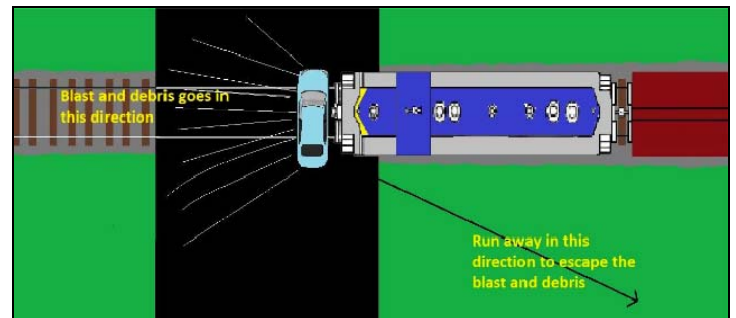
The folks at Consumer Reports have compiled a list of the best used cars for teens. Teens experience a higher crash rate than adults due to their inexperience so, while also noting that family budgets are a big concern, they considered reliability and vehicles with lifesaving technologies to protect teen drivers in a crash; technologies such as electronic stability control (ESC), anti-lock brakes (ABS), and multi-stage advanced front airbags. They also suggested vehicle types to steer clear of.

Read More: <http://www.consumerreports.org/> ♦

Ask The Driving School Instructor: When Your Car Stalls On Train Tracks

Question: “The driving manual says that if a car is stalled on the tracks and a collision is imminent to run toward the train. That doesn’t make any sense; why would you want to run toward the train?”

Answer: If your car stalls on the railroad tracks and a train is about to hit your car, running in the direction of the train will protect you from being hit by your car and the crash debris. You want to run away from the tracks but in the direction of the train. Maybe this diagram will describe it better:



To avoid this from happening in the first place, never attempt to cross railroad tracks until there is enough clear space on the other side of the tracks for your vehicle to completely clear the tracks.

Want to pass your DMV Exam the first time?

Take the DMV Exam Prep Course at LowestPriceTrafficSchool.com

A young woman with long dark hair is sitting at a desk with a laptop. She is smiling and looking at the camera. There is a mug on the desk in front of her.