"Put the Brakes on Fatalities" every day in Kansas

◆ WEAR A SEAT BELT - About two-thirds of all people killed in vehicle crashes were not wearing seat belts.

◆ PAY ATTENTION -
  ♦ Look for motorcycles.
  ♦ Watch out for pedestrians, bicyclists, animals and other motorists.
  ♦ Minimize distractions while driving.

◆ STAY OUT OF THE “NO ZONES” - Watch for the blind spots, or the No Zones, around large trucks and buses.

◆ TURN ON HEADLIGHTS - Required by Kansas law when windshield wipers are on.

◆ KANSAS MOVE OVER LAW - Slow down and move over if it is safe to do so for stopped emergency or maintenance vehicles engaged in work along highways and displaying flashing lights.

◆ DESIGNATE A DRIVER - Don’t drink and drive. Alcohol is a factor in about one-third of all fatal crashes.

◆ CHILDREN AGE 4 TO 7, WHO ARE LESS THAN 4’ 9” TALL OR WEIGH LESS THAN 80 POUNDS - Be properly restrained in a belt positioning booster seat.

◆ CHILDREN UNDER AGE 4 - Be properly restrained in a child safety seat.

Poster Art Contest
 Kansas kids ages 5 through 13 are invited to enter artwork representing their thoughts on “Put the Brakes on Fatalities.” Three statewide winners will be chosen from the 18 regional winners in three age categories.

Regional prizes – new bicycles and helmets courtesy of Safe Kids Kansas
Statewide prizes – family packages courtesy of Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure and the Courtyard by Marriott of Salina, plus $50 fuel cards courtesy of QuikTrip Corporation

Mailed contest entries must be postmarked by September 14

For contest rules and mailing information, visit the Kansas Department of Transportation’s website at www.ksdot.org

NOTE: This information is available in alternative accessible formats. To obtain an alternative format, contact Transportation Information, Eisenhower Building, 700 SW Harrison, 2nd Floor West, Topeka, KS, 66603-3754, or (785) 296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired - 711.

Let’s work together to reduce traffic fatalities

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For more details: brakesonfatalities.org
Don’t wait to drive safe
You might not get a second chance

Buckle Up - Day or Night

During nighttime hours in 2010, 61 percent of the 10,647 passenger vehicle occupants nationwide who died in motor vehicle traffic crashes were not wearing seat belts. In primarily daylight hours, the rate was 42 percent.

In Kansas, 76 percent of the 154 passenger vehicle occupants who died in traffic crashes between 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. were not wearing their seat belts, compared with 57 percent during daytime hours.

Distracted driving kills

Distracted driving can divert a driver’s attention and endanger the safety of the passengers and bystanders as well as the driver. These distractions include:

- Using a cell phone or smartphone
- Reading, including maps
- Using a navigation system
- Watching a video/adjusting a radio device

Sending/receiving a text takes a driver’s eyes from the road for an average of 4.6 seconds. At 55 mph, that’s driving the entire length of a football field.

Always Make Safety Your Top Priority

- Drive courteously and defensively.
- Don’t speed or drive aggressively.
- Don’t drive while impaired.
- Know the rules of the road, and obey all signs and signals.
- Wear protective gear. Seatbelts in vehicles and helmets for cyclists greatly reduce injuries or deaths.

At any given moment during daylight hours, more than 800,000 vehicles are being driven by someone using a hand-held cell phone.

Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day
Sponsored by local, state and national organizations that strive to improve transportation safety

About 30,000 people die in traffic crashes each year across the United States. That’s nearly 90 fatalities every day. Let’s encourage everyone – drivers, passengers, pedestrians and cyclists – to take extra caution every day and Put the Brakes on Fatalities.