

DRIVE RESPONSIBLY

Every year state troopers investigate approximately 1,000 crashes on area roadways.

Many of these crashes were caused by drivers who committed the same violation for which you were stopped.

Motor vehicle crashes are preventable, yet far too many fatal and serious injury crashes are occurring on our roadways. Please take a minute to read the following crash information and understand why we ask that you obey the traffic laws of our state.

Unsafe Speed

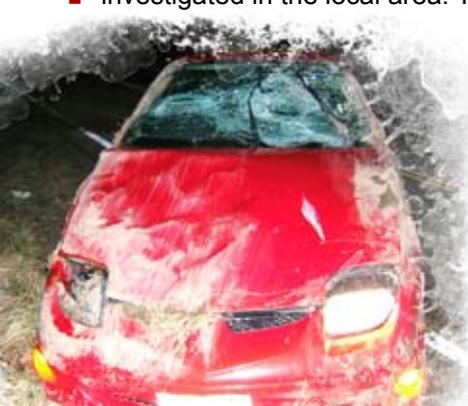
Speed related violations accounted for over 40 percent of the crashes investigated in the local area in 2009. This crash sent five occupants to area hospitals with serious injuries because the driver was operating the vehicle well above a safe speed for the conditions of the roadway.



Youthful Drivers

Youthful drivers (age 16 – 24) accounted for 38 percent of all of the crashes investigated in the local area. The windshield damage in this photo clearly shows that this driver was not wearing his safety belt. The injuries he sustained in the crash could have been avoided had he been properly restrained. Generally, 15 percent of the crashes investigated in the local area involve unrestrained motorists. Remember to always buckle up.

Did you know...on average, more than half of all Ohioans killed in motor vehicle crashes are not wearing a seat belt?



Left of Center

This two-vehicle crash occurred on SR 151 in Harrison County. One of the drivers was impaired by alcohol and drove left of center striking the other driver head on. Three occupants from both vehicles were transported to the hospital with serious injuries. In 2009, 100 percent of the fatal crashes investigated in the local area were alcohol related. There is no excuse for driving while impaired. Always choose to have a designated driver if you are going to be drinking.



Driver Inattention

This crash occurred on US 22 in Jefferson County. The driver admitted that his cell phone rang and he was distracted as he attempted to answer the call. Remember that there is no phone call worth causing death or injury to yourself or someone else. Pull to the berm to answer the call, or wait until you have reached your destination. Distracted driving has been compared to driving under the influence of alcohol. It impairs your ability to focus on your driving.



Driving responsibly is about being more aware of the lives in your hands — literally — when you are in control of the car. Local troopers want you to remember you may only have one chance to be aware of all of your surroundings when you are driving. Don't ruin that one chance and take the risk of ending your life or someone else's.

Always drive safely, watch for other vehicles, including motorcycles, and always wear your safety belt.

