

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Front Desk Hours:

Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

(701) 250-7911



TT&S Notes:

Spring is here, and we know that, for our member companies, it means increased work for technicians and a decreased interest in workshops. Despite that, TT&S is always willing to schedule training in the spring and summer months.

With spring also comes nice weather. Although the icy roads may be a fading memory, driving is no less dangerous in the better seasons. Road surfaces reveal a need for repairs. That means road construction. While crews for various utilities may need to work along roadsides any time of the year, construction crews are out in full force in the warmer months. Every year, a week in April is recognized as Work Zone Awareness Week, but we need to remain aware of work zones at all times. Avoid distractions and pay attention to other drivers and pedestrians along the roadway.

Summer also brings plenty of other hazards, as mentioned in the most recent safety training sessions. Aside from the return of insects and taking protection not to get bitten, you want to protect your skin and stay hydrated in the sun and heat.

Last of all, we'd like to thank everyone who made our most recent conference a wonderful success. We worked hard organizing the topics and speakers that we thought you'd like, but we're always open to suggestions. Our goal is to make each conference better than the last. Help us do that by sending in your suggestions for speakers, events, food, or anything about the conference to Melanie at ma.nilles@ttsafety.com. Planning for 2023 starts now.



www.ttsafety.com

TT&S TELECOM Training & Safety

Spring 2022

Just Drive

Keep your eyes and mind on the road

Distracted driving comes in many forms - using devices of any kind, whether touchscreens or hands-free; eating; and even personal hygiene practices like brushing teeth, shaving, and hair brushing. Even talking with a passenger or our thoughts can steal our attention from driving.

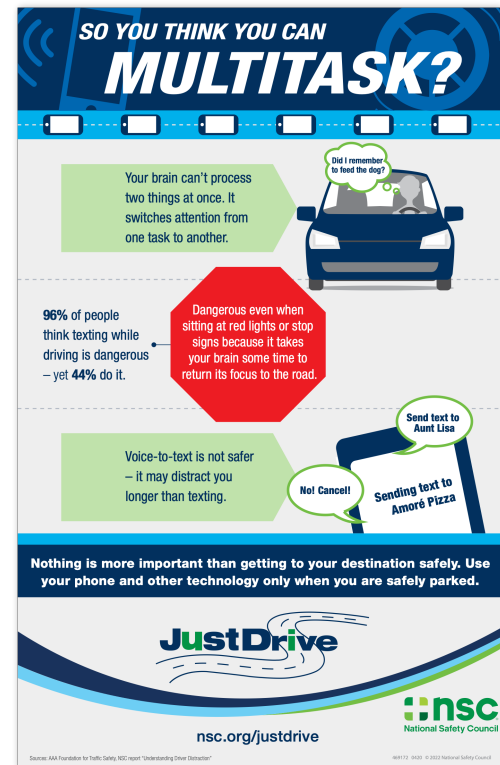
Yes, your thoughts. Year after year, the top cause of all auto fatalities is a driver's mind wandering long enough to lead to a collision and someone's death. Cell phone use is consistently second. The common theme in every distracted driving accident is drivers paying attention to something *other than driving*.

So, what can you do?

The answer is simple - **keep your attention on driving when you're behind the wheel.**

Below are some suggestions to avoid distracted driving accidents:

- Plan ahead: eat, groom, primp, and organize before OR after your drive to avoid any unforeseen distraction.
- Program any global positioning system (GPS), music device, or dashboard/voice infotainment system prior to departing. If adjustments are needed while driving, pull over to a safe place out of traffic lanes and put the vehicle in "Park" to make the appropriate adjustment.
- Turn off your phone, or download an app to prevent incoming and outgoing messages, calls, and notifications while driving; some even send an auto-response back to let people know you're on the road.
- Speak up as a passenger if you witness distracted driving.
- Pull over safely if you need to address any distraction while driving.



Stay alert on the road and practice safe driving for you and others.

Top 10 OSHA Violations in Fiscal Year 2021

The latest list of top violations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2021, and the OSHA standard cited are listed below:

1. Fall Protection - Generation Requirements (1926.501)
2. Respiratory Protection (1910.134)
3. Ladders (1926.503)
4. Scaffolding (1926.451)
5. Hazard Communication (1910.1200)
6. Lockout/Tagout (1910.147)
7. Fall Protection - Training Requirements (1926.503)
8. Personal Protective Equipment - Eye and Face Protection (1926.102)
9. Powered Industrial Trucks (1910.178)
10. Machine Guarding (1910.212)

Call Before You Dig!

Spring thaw often means spring projects, whether commercial or personal. Spring projects often mean digging.

But what happens if you damage a utility? The cost could mean thousands of dollars in repairs and fines. Soon that little project is a big project.

There is a free solution – Call 811. Let them know of your project. All your underground utilities will be located and marked so you can avoid damage. You won't know whether they are inches or feet below the surface, but you can at least know where they are.



Summer Sun Guidelines

Summer sun can burn, and those burns can cause damage that leads to skin cancer. That damage can be minimized with a few simple steps:

- Limit time in the sun, especially between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., when the sun's rays are most intense.
- Wear clothing to cover skin exposed to the sun, such as long-sleeved shirts, pants, sunglasses, and broad-brimmed hats.
- Use broad spectrum sunscreens with SPF values of 15 or higher regularly and as directed.
- Reapply sunscreen at least every two hours, and more often if you're sweating or jumping in and out of the water.

Slow Down in Work Zones

With the arrival of spring comes road construction season. According to the Federal Highway Administration, in 2019, 842 people died in highway work-zone crashes, the highest since 2006. In 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic, work zone crashes & fatalities climbed despite lower traffic volumes.

It is important that drivers stay alert through work zones, avoid all distractions, and slow down and watch out for workers and their activities. Pay attention, and everyone can go home safely.



A Note about TT&S Self-Study Materials

TT&S offers a library of training materials (books and DVDs) for our member company employees to borrow for self-study. However, our supplies are limited – some classes only have one or two copies. TT&S would like to remind everyone to be courteous in borrowing materials by returning them promptly so that we can loan them to the next person.

TT&S will send out materials once or twice a week to the designated contacts at each company.

Newsletter Items

Submit news items or ideas for the TT&S newsletter by writing to us at one of the two contact emails listed:

Kyla Bratz - (701) 323-3023
Melanie Nilles - (701) 323-3022

k.bratz@ttsafety.com
ma.nilles@ttsafety.com