



Florida Department of Transportation District 7 11201 N. McKinley Drive Tampa, FL 33612-6456

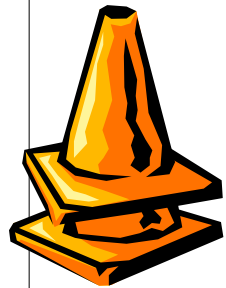
CTST MEETING SCHEDULE

- Hillsborough County CTST - 4th Wednesday at 9:30 a.m.
Pasco County CTST - 4th Wednesday at 1:30 p.m.
Pinellas County CTST - 1st Thursday at 9:30 a.m.
West Central Florida CTST - 2nd Wednesday at 1:00 p.m.

TRAFFIC SAFETY EVENTS:

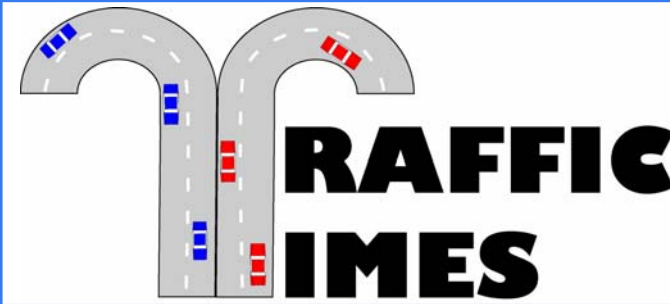
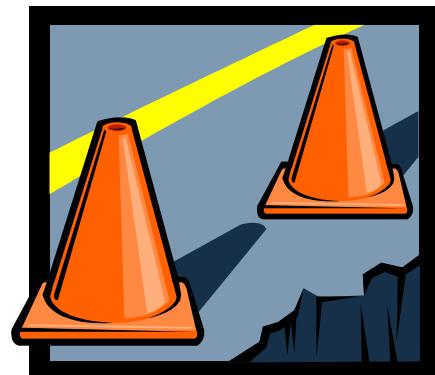
- National Life Savers Convention, Charlotte, NC—March 13-15
National Work Zone Awareness Week—April 3-9
Pro Bike/Pro Walk Conference, Tampa— April 6-9
Train Safety Awareness Week—April 17-23
Click It or Ticket Enforcement Mobilization—May 23-June 5

FLORIDA WORK ZONE SAFETY CAMPAIGN



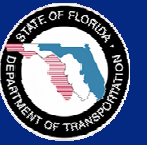
Spurred by an increasing trend of traffic crashes, injuries and fatalities in Florida work zones, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) is developing a Work Zone Safety Campaign (WZSC). The year-long campaign will consist of the components of engineering, law enforcement, and public information and education (PI&E), and will begin during the 2005 National Work Zone Awareness Week, April 3-9.

It is anticipated that the proposed structure of the Work Zone Safety Campaign will clearly relay to the traveling public that safe driving must be of paramount importance in highway work zones in Florida. This will be evidenced by an increased law enforcement presence in the work areas beginning during NWZAW.



March 2005

Newsletter published by the Community Traffic Safety Teams (CTST), Sponsored by the Florida Department of Transportation, District 7.



Local People Solving Local Problems

Inside this issue:

- Focus on Child Passenger Safety
SAFE Kids Tampa Instruct Public on Proper Car Seat Techniques
Tow-to-Go Provides Safe Rides for St. Patrick's Day
Florida Work Zone Safety Campaign
Upcoming Traffic Safety Events

THUMBS UP FOR BIKE HELMET LAW IN CITRUS COUNTY

The road to bike helmets in Citrus County, has been a long one. Kristen Reinhard, Bike Safety Specialist with the Citrus County Sheriff's Department has been instrumental in the behind the scene effort.

In February, Citrus county fifth-graders urged the county commissioners to require all children under age 16 to wear helmets when riding a bike.

Bicycle helmets can be purchased locally for approximately \$7.00. Wal-Mart and Home Depot are interested in partnering with the county to provide helmets.



Hooray for helmets in Citrus County!

"The helmet law being passed is like a nice big cherry on top of a sundae! I do believe that the helmet law being passed will help so much in getting children to wear helmets. Two people that need to be recognized are Sgt. Royal and Dr. Brocket"

Implementing a law that requires bicycle helmets and educates the children about the importance of following rules is a win-win situation for Citrus County.





**St. Patrick's Day is March 17th**

Just a reminder, if you have had too much to drink, please do not drink and drive.

AAA Auto Club South and Budweiser provide "Tow-to-Go". This is a ride home and a tow of your vehicle, free of charge!

The number to call for "Tow-to-Go" is: 1-800-AAA-HELP.

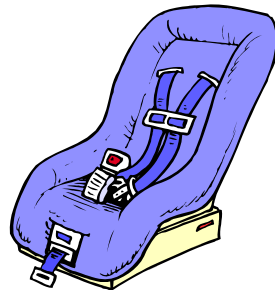


**FOCUS ON CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY**

National Child Passenger Safety Week occurs each year during the week of Valentine's Day, (this year, February 13-19) bringing public attention to the importance of safely transporting children.

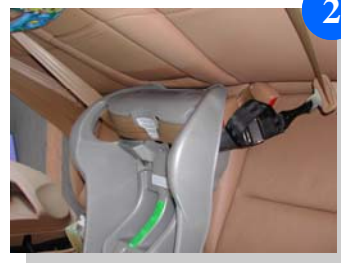
Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death among children in the United States. In 2003, 1,591 children ages 14 years and younger died as occupants in motor vehicle crashes and approximately 220,000 were injured. That's an average of four deaths and more than 600 injuries each day.

Of children ages 14 years and younger who were fatally injured in 2003, more than half were unrestrained (NHTSA 2004).

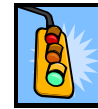


Susan Littnan, Child Passenger Safety Instructor gives demonstrations at "Walmart Baby Days" in Citrus County on the importance of securing children in their car seats. Mothers have the opportunity to ask questions.

**SAFE Kids Tampa INSTRUCTS THE PUBLIC ON PROPER CAR SEAT TECHNIQUES AT A CHECKPOINT AT FERMAN CHEVROLET**



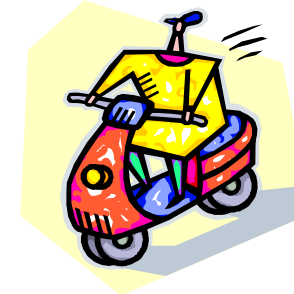
- 1) In this situation, the infant arrived with 2 inch slack in the harnesses, using an aftermarket head support that did not come with the seat, the chest clip was too low and mom was using a rear view mirror that could come off during a crash and become a missile.
- 2) The car seat was installed using both a seat belt that was not in locking mode and the latch system that was attached to the passenger side seat belt. Only one option should be used to ensure safety and the latch must only be latched into their designated latch attachment points, usually on the sides and not in the middle due to width requirements.
- 3) All correction were made with the mother performing the installation with the help of the CPS technician.



**Where Can We Ride Our Go-ped/Motorized Scooter?**

**Q. I just purchased my child a go-ped, where can he/she ride it?**

**A.** Go-peds and motorized scooters can only be ridden on private property with permission from the owner of the property. For most individuals this would be their driveway or yard. You may not ride a go-ped or motorized scooter on sidewalks, bike paths or the road.



**Why Are Businesses Selling Them?**

**Q. If go-peds and motorized scooters are illegal to ride on the roadways and sidewalks then why are businesses allowed to sell them?**

**A.** It is not against the law to possess, use or operate a go-ped or motorized scooter as long as you are on private property; therefore it is not against the law for businesses to sell them.

**GENERAL GUIDE to STATE LAW REQUIRMENTS:**

DL = Driver's License      Reg = Registration  
Rd = Roadway              Side = Sidewalk

Type:	DL	Reg	Rd	Side
Go-Ped (Gas/elec.)	yes	yes*	yes*	foot power
Mini-Cycle	yes	yes*	yes*	no
Scooter	yes	yes*	yes*	no
Moped (Gas/elec.)	yes	yes	yes	pedal power
Motor-Cycle	yes	yes	yes	no



\* According to Florida law, go-peds, mini-cycles, and electric (e) – scooters are considered motor vehicles. However, because go-peds, mini-cycles, and e-scooters are not manufactured to meet the required federal Motor Vehicle Safety Act, they cannot be registered for operation on public roadways, even if the operator has a valid driver's license.

**Ten Tips for Driving Safely in Work Zones:**

1. Expect the unexpected.
2. Slow down.
3. Don't tailgate.
4. Keep a safe distance between you and the car ahead of you.
5. Pay attention to the signs.
6. Obey road crew flaggers.
7. Stay alert and minimize distractions.
8. Keep up with traffic flow.
9. Schedule enough time to drive safely and check radio, TV and websites for traffic information.
10. Be patient and stay calm.

