



SAFETY/SENSE

The Monthly Newsletter of Delaware Safety Council

August 2023 Volume 2 No. 8



Back to School Month - Stop on Red Week



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Letter From Executive Director — Stacey Inglis

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Dear Members and Friends,

When I was 10 years old and in the 5th grade at Lincoln Elementary School, I won *Safety of the Year*. My teacher Mr. Windt suggested me for a *Safety*. This was a role for responsible students. In the mornings I was entrusted with taking the daily attendance card to the principal's office and returning to class. So perhaps I had earned the trust of my teacher.

I was proud for the additional responsibility of being a *Safety*. As a *Safety*, we left class a little early to get our uniform on and our equipment. We wore a neon belt that went across our waist and shoulders with a metal shield pinned on. We were also armed with a pole that had a red flag at the end. The idea was that the students known as *Walkers* would need to cross the street to go home for lunch and then cross it again when they returned to school. We *Safeties* saw to it that they made it unscathed.

For me, back to school meant September. Nowadays, students head back to school in mid-August. That means school buses and new teen drivers are back on the roadways sooner.

School days can also bring congestion: School buses are picking up their passengers, kids on bikes are hurrying to get to school before the bell rings, harried parents are trying to drop their kids off before work. According to research by the National Safety Council, most of the children who lose their lives in bus-related incidents are 4 to 7 years old, and they're walking. They are hit by the bus, or by a motorist illegally passing a stopped bus.

So share the road this back-to-school year. Be patient. Allow the children to safely cross to their bus and always stop for the school bus stop sign.

Stacey

Executive Director/CEO
Delaware Safety Council

Member of:





Sadie on Safety

Sadie Walsh is a sophomore marketing major at University of Scranton. She graduated Archmere Academy in Wilmington, Delaware.

Summertime Safety. From a *Gen Z* Perspective

by Sadie Walsh, Marketing Delaware Safety Council

Let Us Protect Our Children and Pets During the Summertime!

Summer brings sunny days, outdoor activities, and fun beach trips. However, it is critical to remember that rising temperatures create risks, especially for children and pets. Sadly, every year there is news that a child was left unattended in a hot car, leading to heat related illnesses and even the child passing away. This tragedy also occurs with animals being stuck in hot vehicles. It is essential that preventative measures are taken to keep children and pets safe during these scorching summer months.

According to the National Safety Council, thirty-three child heatstroke deaths were reported nationally in 2022 and fourteen have been reported in 2023 so far. In most cases, this tragedy occurs due to factors such as forgetfulness, distractions, and underestimating how hot vehicles can become. The temperatures inside cars can increase rapidly, reaching dangerous levels even when the outside temperature seems moderate. On a typical sunny day, the temperature inside a car can rise by twenty degrees within just ten minutes.



Children's body temperatures are not fully developed, making them more vulnerable to heat related illnesses. Heatstroke occurs when the body's temperature rises to a dangerous level which can lead to dizziness, nausea, loss of consciousness, and organ failure.

It is illegal to leave pets in cars on hot days. In Delaware, it is also illegal to break into another individual's car if you notice there is a pet inside. A dog does not have the ability to sweat or cool down on their own, so leaving them in a hot vehicle with no way to cool down can be fatal. Even with the windows down, pets can still overheat inside a vehicle. If you notice a pet unattended in a hot vehicle, call 911 and first responders will assess the situation.

Here are some essential steps to make sure this incident does not occur:

Never leave children or pets unattended: Even if you only plan on leaving the car for a moment, it is crucial to take your children and pet out of the vehicle with you. Make it a habit to double check the backseat before locking the vehicle.



Educate others: Raise awareness among people around you about the dangers of leaving children and pets in cars. Emphasizing the importance of this issue is critical for prioritizing child and pet safety.

Be vigilant: If you notice a child or pet alone in a vehicle, call emergency services. By being vigilant your actions could save a life.

Recently, I encountered a situation which prompted me to write this article. A couple of weeks ago heading to a meeting, we parked in the lot of a local department store where we noticed two children and an infant left unattended in a parked car. The car was running, the air conditioning was on, it was apparent that the children had been left alone for quite a long time due to many indicators. The car was next to ours and we kept an eye on it when we entered the store. We approached the nearest employee at the counter and told them about the children. They immediately took charge and managed the situation. If they had not, we would have called the police.

Without observing our surroundings and noticing those children in the vehicle, something could have gone terribly wrong. ***Never leave children or infants unattended in vehicles!***

I have also noticed many pet owners leaving their pets alone in vehicles for long periods of time. Especially in parking lots of pet and grocery stores. If the location you are going to is pet friendly, simply take your pet with you. However, if it is not pet friendly, consider ***NOT*** taking your pet along with you on your errands.

As the summer heat intensifies, let us remain vigilant in protecting our children and furry friends from the dangers of being left in hot vehicles. By taking preventive measures, we can ensure that no child or pet suffers the consequence of the summer heat. Let us work together as a community to keep everyone safe. Stay safe and stay cool!

MEMBER Spotlight. Some Recent, Some Returning.



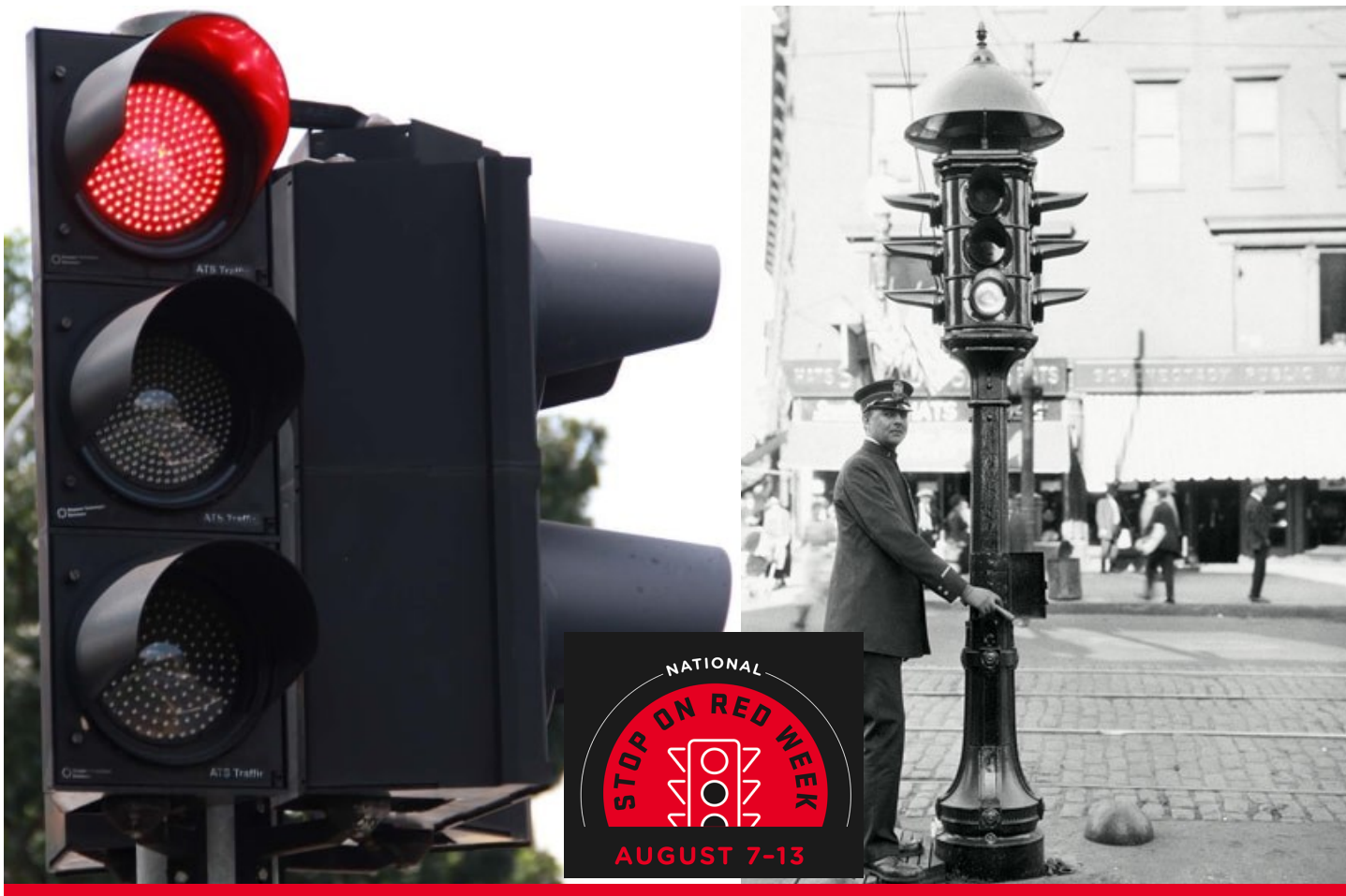
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Stop On Red Week was created by the *Federal Highway Administration* in 1995 to reduce the severity of traffic collisions by educating the public. The week highlights the risks of running a red light and how reckless driving can destroy lives. The initiative was promoted by the *National Coalition for Safer Roads* (N.C.S.R) to ensure communities around the country remain protected.

According to the *National Highway Traffic Safety Administration* (N.H.T.S.A), vehicle accidents resulting from breaking the red light rule were responsible for around 11,877 deaths between 2004 and 2018. In addition, about 139,000 people had been injured.

During the 1900s, traffic was controlled in the United States by the police officers directing it from towers. But when cars became the norm and traffic increased, managing vehicles also evolved. At first, traffic lights were gas-based lamps, which later evolved into the

electric variety with only two lights: red and green. Instead of the yellow light, a buzzer would sound to indicate a change in the signal was about to take place. The first red, yellow and green traffic signal was used in Detroit in 1920.

While incidents relating to red light violations continue, modern camera technology has proven to reduce accidents effectively. Drivers now know they are being watched and will be punished severely if a crash occurs due to their negligence. However, things weren't always so advanced, and it took years, and millions of car crashes, to reach the point of safety that the world has today.





Safe + Sound Week is a nationwide event held each August that recognizes the successes of workplace health and safety programs and offers information and ideas on how to keep America's workers safe.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the rate of worker deaths and reported injuries in the United States has decreased by more than 60 percent in the past four decades since the Occupational Safety and Health (OSHA) Act was passed. However, every year, more than 5,000 workers are killed on the job (a rate of 14 per day), and more than 3.6 million suffer a serious job-related injury or illness.

Serious job-related injuries or illnesses don't just hurt workers and their families, but can hurt business in a variety of ways. Implementing a safety and health program, however, can improve small and medium sized businesses' safety and health performance, save money, and improve competitiveness.

Safety and health programs help businesses:

- Prevent workplace injuries and illnesses
- Improve compliance with laws and regulations
- Reduce costs, including significant reductions in workers' compensation premiums
- Engage workers
- Enhance social responsibility goals

**SIGN UP YOUR COMPANY
TAKE THE PLEDGE!**

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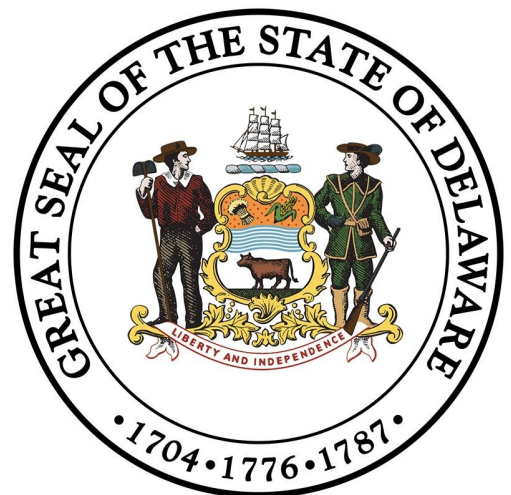
***Only 3 companies in Delaware have pledged
OSHA's **Safe & Sound** Week, 53 in Pennsylvania and 26 in New Jersey!***



Governor Carney Signs Package of Roadway Safety Legislation

New Delaware legislative package includes bills to:

- Curb speeding and reckless driving
- Expand “Move Over” protections
- Require helmets in the first two years of a motorcycle license
- Strengthen child safety seat requirements
- Enable green lights on snow plows to increase visibility



As part of the legislative package, [House Bill 120](#), sponsored by Representative Franklin Cooke and Senator Kyra Hoffner, establishes speeding violations of 90 miles per hour or more as a Reckless Driving offense, subject to fines, traffic school, or community service picking up litter on the side of the road. Speeding was a contributor to 26 fatal crashes in Delaware from 2020 – 2022.

[House Bill 92](#), otherwise known as “Move over” legislation, led by Representative William Carson, Senate Majority Whip Elizabeth Lockman, and Senator Stephanie Hansen, requires drivers to change lanes or reduce their speed while approaching any stationary vehicle on the shoulder or in the roadway displaying warning signals. Warning signals may include vehicle hazard warning lights, road flares, traffic cones, cautions signs, or any non-vehicular warning signs. In 2022, 13 people were killed in Delaware while in or near stopped vehicles.

[Senate Bill 86](#) led by Senate President Pro Tempore David Sokola, Representative Sean Lynn, and Representative Danny Short, requires all riders to wear a helmet in their first two years of having a motorcycle endorsement. Statistics from the Delaware Department of Transportation show that 25 percent of serious injury and fatal accidents among Delaware licensed motorcycles riders occurred within their first two years of obtaining a license. Over the last five years, 35 motorcyclists were killed and 143 were seriously injured on Delaware roadways while not wearing helmets.

[Senate Bill 86](#), introduced by Senator Kyle Evans Gay and Representative Krista Griffith, requires children under two and under 30 pounds to be in a rear-facing seat with a 5 point harness, and those under 4 and under 40 pounds would need to be in either a front- or rear-facing seat with a 5 point harness. From age 4-16, it would be required to use a booster to the maximum height and weight limits, then use a seatbelt. Enforcement would not take place until after a year-long awareness campaign. This proposed revision to Delaware's child safety seat requirements adds specificity to the law, which currently only requires an "appropriate" car seat or booster.

[Senate Bill 89](#) allows state-owned and operated snow plows to use a revolving or flashing green light and was sponsored by Senator Spiros Mantzavinos and Representative William Carson. Green lights have been found to be better seen in snowy conditions than white or amber lights due to the increased contrast, and have been adopted for plows in recent years by states including Michigan and Ohio. Flashing or revolving lights on vehicles must be authorized through legislation.

Additionally, [House Substitute 1 for House Bill 94](#) implements a five-year trial run of a system that would permit the use of automatic speed cameras in work zones and residential areas within municipalities.



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