



SAFETY/SENSE

The Monthly Newsletter of Delaware **Safety** Council

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June 4—10, 2023

Letter From Executive Director — Stacey Inglis

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Dear Members and Friends,

Safety is in the air as June is *National Safety Month*. Preventable injuries, commonly known as "accidents," are the fourth leading cause of U.S. deaths.

Join us in observing *National Safety Month* as we work together to highlight leading causes of preventable injury and death so people can live their fullest lives.

As a returning Member of National Safety Council, we look forward to working with them to amplify our safety messaging during *National Safety Month*. Our goal is to create healthier, safer environments

Week One of *National Safety Month* we will focus on Emergency Preparedness, Week Two Slips, Trips and Falls, Week Three Heat-Related Illness and Week Four Hazard Recognition.

Stacey

Stacey Inglis
Executive Director
Delaware Safety Council



Member of:



MEMBER Spotlight. Some Recent, Some Returning.



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TRAILER SAFETY WEEK

What is Trailer Safety Week?

Trailer Safety Week is an annual nation-wide awareness campaign aimed at increasing awareness of the importance of being committed to trailer safety. It educates end-users about proper trailer maintenance and usage creating a stronger partnership and alliance between stakeholders of the industry including trailer dealers, manufacturers, and end-users.

Although trailer safety is important to focus on 365 days a year, *Trailer Safety Week* will officially take place June 4-10, 2023. End-users are vastly under-educated on the proper use of trailers, and it is crucial to utilize the connections that dealers and manufacturers have with consumers in order to raise awareness of proper towing techniques and maintenance.

With millions of trailers traversing the nation's roadways every day and being used by businesses, local governments and individuals for recreational purposes it is crucial to ensure that trailers are being towed safely for the sake of everyone on the roads.



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Safeguarding Delawareans Since 1919

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SMART^{DRIVE}[®] Classic

The first Sunday in May, Point-to-Point on the grounds of Winterthur, Delaware Safety Council was present and in the race! Its SmartDrive Teen Driving program provided attendees with teachable activities warning of the dangers of impaired driving.

Attendees were provided complimentary water for proper hydration and safe sun practices, walkers given reflectors for Pedestrian Safety and more!

It was quite a horse race, but safety definitely won!





Safety on the Roadways from a **Gen Z** Perspective

by Sadie Walsh, Marketing Intern Delaware Safety Council



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

Safety is the number one priority as the newest generation learns to tackle the Delaware roads. New technological distractions such as phones and car features affect how drivers practice safe driving. Now more than ever, new drivers must be alert to protect the safety of our Delaware roads.

New technology has tremendously improved vehicles throughout the years but also brings several downsides for new drivers. Today's teenagers are consumed by their phones and have difficulty parting with them, even for a short drive. The latest Bluetooth connecting

features in cars have made all phone features available in the vehicle, including phone calls, music, and even texting through Siri's voice command. Unfortunately, these advances have led to many drivers becoming distracted while driving on the road.

I have noticed this occurring quite significantly in my generation. For example, a friend became overly focused on choosing the right song and did not realize they were swerving from lane to lane. Having observed this firsthand on many occasions, it is best to leave the

to leave the phone unconnected from the vehicle to avoid temptations and ensure the safety of others. I have found that using the radio and not changing the station or relying on CDs significantly reduces the urge to think about my cellular device.

In addition to new technological advances, I want to share a personal story that taught me the importance of practicing defensive driving. When I was 16 and learning to drive, I was immensely nervous about operating a car alone. Driver's education offered through my high school was a fantastic opportunity to navigate this new chapter with the comfort of familiar people and teachers. However, the vehicle that I practiced on had advanced features like backup cameras, lane sensors, and blind spot sensors. Practicing on that specific vehicle for months made me reliant on those sensors and accustomed to their assistance.

When I started driving my current car, I became nervous when those features were no longer available.

I feared for my safety because, out of habit, I might forget to check blind spots and rely solely on technology, potentially causing an accident. For newer generations, it is essential to ensure that, alongside newer technologies, the basics of safe driving are always taught to protect others on the road. Constantly checking blind spots and looking around when backing up is critical, even with technology, as it may not always be accurate.

Driving responsibly is a significant issue regarding Generation Z. Non-adherence to traffic rules, such as speed limits and stop signs, puts other drivers on the road at risk. Peer influence plays a part in this problem, as many teenagers feel the need to impress their friends by driving fast to gain their approval. While this can apply to every generation, Generation Z's impatience often makes them prioritize reaching their destination quickly rather than driving safely.

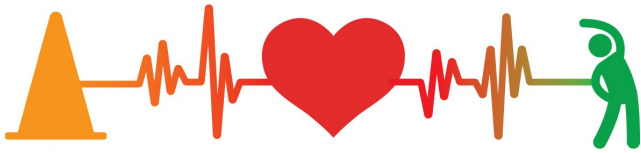
Taking defensive driving classes is vital to ensuring that these rules are followed and refreshing on the basics of road safety.

As a part of the newest generation of drivers, it is significant to recognize the patterns that make us different. The pandemic greatly impacted our ability to drive, with driver's education not being available and the need to quickly obtain our licenses to regain a sense of freedom. Growing up in a technologically advanced world compared to previous generations has made us reliant on devices, reducing our attention span and making us more distracted than ever.

I have grown up understanding that safety is critical to protecting ourselves and others. Our actions impact others, especially on the roads, where they can result in injuries. By recognizing the importance of safety, Generation Z can shape future generations by creating respect on the roads through increased education and driving awareness.

Gen Z





HEALTH & SAFETY FAIR

On May 17, 2023, Delaware Safety Council participated in the *ESL Safety & Health Fair* on the DUPONT Experimental Station campus in Wilmington, DE.

Safety vendors from around the region shared information and networked with employees and tenants of the campus.

Attendees arrived on two and occasionally four legs!

Employees of Delaware Safety Council provided information on safe driving, seatbelt wearing, impaired driving awareness, CPR and AED training opportunities and more.

Attendees participated in interactive games that exemplified impairment with a patterned cup stacking activity. They were able to understand the difference in their accuracy and how important awareness of diminishing impairment is when driving a motor vehicle.

◀ DUPONT ▶



HISTORY CORNER



Founders Day

Delaware Safety Council was founded by DuPont Company president Irénée du Pont, on Wednesday, June 4, 1919. The Delaware Safety Council was created with the mission of providing safety training and resources to industry and later expanded its focus to include public and school safety.

During the first part of the 20th century, Delaware Safety Council was instrumental in the creation of many systems, laws and protocols that improved roadway safety in Delaware. In 1929, the Council conducted a traffic survey and analysis that resulted in improved highway engineering enforcement and education.

Today, Delaware Safety Council remains committed to your safety and security.

For more history on Delaware Safety Council click [HERE](#)

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