

Produced by  
**Passenger Safety**  
The Texas AgriLife Extension Service  
*in cooperation with*  
The Texas Department of Transportation  
2008

# Teen Traffic Safety



## *Project Guide*

*Produced by*

***Passenger Safety***

The Texas AgriLife Extension Service

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The Texas Department of Transportation

2008

## Introduction



**T**he *Teen Traffic Safety Project Guide* provides information, program ideas and resources available for a variety of traffic safety topics. The purpose of the guide is to provide teens with resources and ideas for quality programs with minimal cost. In addition, the education delivered through these programs has the potential to make a difference in the lives of all involved.

*Educational programs of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service are open to all people without regard to race, color, sex, disability, religion, age, or national origin.*

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## Teens and Safety Restraints: Safety Belts and Airbags



**OBJECTIVE:** *To increase safety belt usage among teenage drivers and occupants in vehicles.*

- PROGRAM IDEAS:**
- Invite law enforcement officers/traffic safety specialists to speak about safety belts, air bags and the safety restraint law in Texas.
  - Present programs for high school assemblies, 4-H clubs, school organizations, community organizations and church youth groups.
    - Research web sites on safety belt restraints and air bags.
    - Check local or county statistics for safety belt usage in city/county.
    - Show videos on safety belts and air bags, crash tests, laws and/or lifesaving stories.
    - Use costumes for youth to dress as Vince and Larry Crash Dummies. Contact local county Extension agent to make reservation with the AgriLife Extension Service Passenger Safety (Passenger Safety) for costumes.
    - Obtain fact sheets on safety belt laws from Texas AgriLife Extension Service - Passenger Safety.



***METHOD DEMONSTRATION/  
ILLUSTRATED TALKS***

- Demonstrate correct use of safety restraints.
- Discuss and explain the primary safety belt law in Texas.

***ACTIVITIES:***

- **Pre and Post Studies:**  
Set up observational studies in a high school parking lot. Conduct a study prior to programs and then conduct study a week or month after programs. Give lollipop “Dum-Dums” to those not wearing safety belts and award “Smarties” to those wearing safety belts. Study forms available from Passenger Safety with directions.
- Create an original video “commercial” to encourage teens to wear a safety belt. Air the commercial on morning announcements in school or to individual classes and programs.

**RESOURCES:**

***Teens and Safety Restraints:  
Safety Belts and Airbags***

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**  
Region 6  
819 Taylor Street, Room 8A38  
Fort Worth, TX 76102  
817-978-3653  
[www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/Index.html](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/Index.html)

**Air Bag & Seat Belt Safety Campaign**  
National Safety Council  
1025 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 1200  
Washington, DC 20036  
202-625-2570  
[www.nsc.org/airbag.htm](http://www.nsc.org/airbag.htm)

**National Transportation Safety Board**  
490 L'Enfant Plaza, SW  
Washington, DC 20594  
202-314-6000  
[www.nts.gov](http://www.nts.gov)

**AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety**  
607 14th Street NW, Suite 201  
Washington, DC 20005  
202-638-5944  
Fax: 202-638-5943  
[www.aaafoundation.org/home/](http://www.aaafoundation.org/home/)

**Safe Riders Program**  
Texas Department of State Health Services  
1100 West 49<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin, TX 78756  
512-458-7111  
800-252-8255  
[www.dshs.state.tx.us/saferiders/default.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/saferiders/default.shtm)

**U. S. Department of Transportation**  
Federal Highway Administration  
[www.fhwa.dot.gov/](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/)

**RESOURCES:** *(continued)*

**Texas Department of Public Safety**  
See list of DPS Troopers available as traffic safety resources at the back of the guide.  
[www.txdps.state.tx.us/](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/)

**Texas Department of Transportation**  
See list of Traffic Safety Specialists at the back of the guide.  
[www.dot.state.tx.us/](http://www.dot.state.tx.us/)

**Texas AgriLife Extension Service**  
Passenger Safety Education  
2251 TAMU  
College Station, TX 77843-2251  
979-862-1782 or 979-862-4658  
[fcs.tamu.edu/safety/](http://fcs.tamu.edu/safety/)

**Local County Extension Agents**  
Listed in most telephone directories under County Government as Texas AgriLife Extension Agents.

## CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY



**OBJECTIVE:** *To increase awareness and correct usage of child safety seats.*

- PROGRAM IDEAS:**
- Invite certified child safety seat technician/instructor to speak about protecting infants and children by being properly restrained in vehicles.
  - Present programs for school/parent organizations to increase awareness of laws for child restraints and best practices for child restraints.
    - Research web sites on child passenger safety.
    - Show videos on correct use of child safety seats.

### **EXHIBIT IDEAS**

- Reserve a Child Safety Seat exhibit from Passenger Safety through the local county Extension agent.
- Hang posters in school along the kindergarten corridors, clinics, and childcare facilities to increase child passenger safety awareness.

**ACTIVITIES:**

- Hand out child safety seat brochures, fact sheets, and information to childcare centers and clinics.
- Assist as a volunteer at a child safety seat checkup event.

**METHOD DEMONSTRATION/  
ILLUSTRATED TALKS**

- Provide statistics for correctly installed child safety seats, correct seat for weight and age, need for booster seats.
- Explain Texas law for restraining children, air bags and children and best practices.
- Discuss child safety seat checkup events, what a certified technician/instructor is, and how parents or caregivers may get help.

**RESOURCES:**

***Child Passenger Safety***

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**  
Region 6  
819 Taylor Street, Room 8A38  
Fort Worth, TX 76102  
817-978-3653  
[www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/Index.html](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/Index.html)

**Air Bag & Seat Belt Safety Campaign**  
National Safety Council  
1025 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 1200  
Washington, CD 20036  
[www.nsc.org/airbag.htm](http://www.nsc.org/airbag.htm)

**Texas AgriLife Extension Service**  
Passenger Safety Education  
2251 TAMU  
College Station, TX 77842-2251  
979-862-1782 or 979-862-4658  
[fcs.tamu.edu/safety/](http://fcs.tamu.edu/safety/)

**Safe Riders Program**  
Texas Department of State Health Services  
1100 West 49<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin, TX 78756  
512-458-7111  
800-252-8255  
[www.dshs.state.tx.us/saferiders/default.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/saferiders/default.shtm)

**Texas Department of Public Safety**  
See list of DPS Troopers available as traffic safety resources at the back of the guide.  
[www.txdps.state.tx.us/](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/)

**The Texas Department of Transportation**  
See list of Traffic Safety Specialists at the back of the guide.  
[www.dot.state.tx.us/](http://www.dot.state.tx.us/)

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## Teen Impaired Driving



### **OBJECTIVE:**

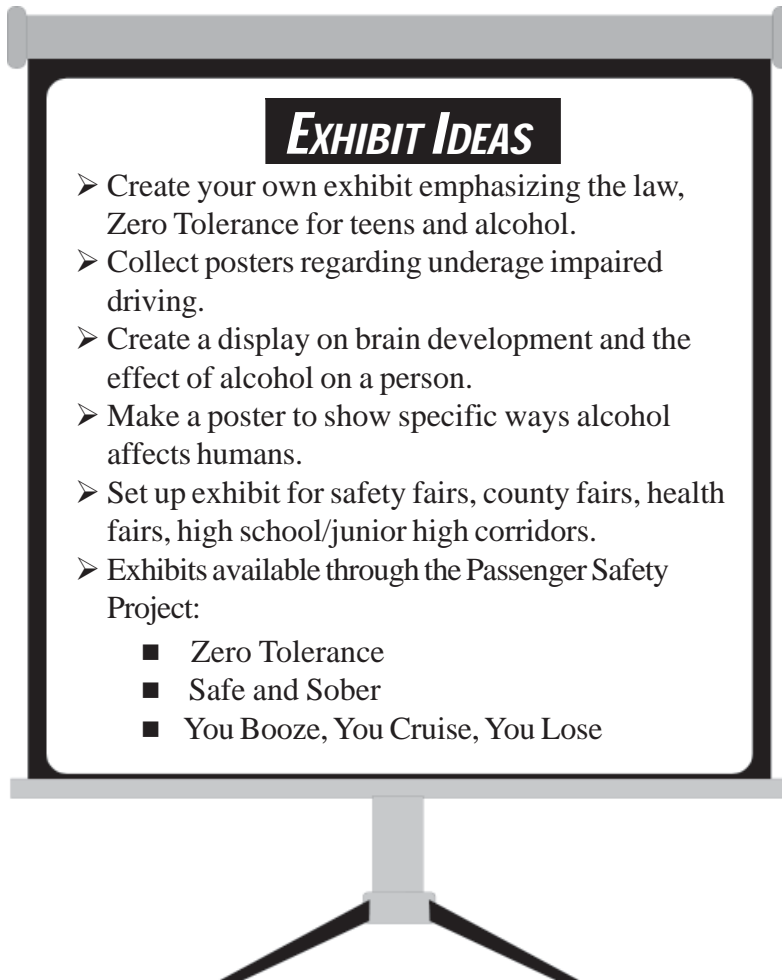
*To increase awareness among teens of the dangers of driving while impaired, consequences of underage drinking, laws and life long consequences.*

### **PROGRAM IDEAS:**

- Invite law enforcement officers/traffic safety specialists to speak to teens about impaired driving, laws and consequences to those under age 21 that may be drinking.
- Set up programs for high school assemblies, 4-H clubs, school organizations, community organizations and church youth groups.
  - Research web sites on teens and alcohol.
  - Use local or county statistics of alcohol related crashes, injuries or fatalities.
  - Show videos of victim testimonials and/or the effect of impaired driving on society.
  - Use costumes to dress as Elvis and pantomime songs about impaired driving. Contact your local county Extension agent to make reservations with Passenger Safety, Texas AgriLife

**PROGRAM IDEAS:** (continued)

- Discuss ways to combat underage impaired driving in local community.
- Under adult supervision, contact other schools to find out what type of programs regarding teens and impaired driving have been conducted.



**EXHIBIT IDEAS**

- Create your own exhibit emphasizing the law, Zero Tolerance for teens and alcohol.
- Collect posters regarding underage impaired driving.
- Create a display on brain development and the effect of alcohol on a person.
- Make a poster to show specific ways alcohol affects humans.
- Set up exhibit for safety fairs, county fairs, health fairs, high school/junior high corridors.
- Exhibits available through the Passenger Safety Project:
  - Zero Tolerance
  - Safe and Sober
  - You Booze, You Cruise, You Lose

**ACTIVITIES:**

- Work with school authorities, parents, churches and school organizations to promote **non-alcoholic** dances or pizza parties to celebrate special events at school such as a homecoming party, football game celebration, New Year's Eve celebration, Valentine party, or after graduation party. Check with TxDOT about planning a *Project Celebration* program.
- Provide pledges to students to not drink alcoholic beverages.
- Borrow or purchase Fatal Vision or DW Eyes goggles to simulate behaviors exhibited by someone under the influence of alcohol. Contact your local county Extension agent to reserve the goggles through the Passenger Safety.
- Contact Passenger Safety to plan a *Shattered Dreams* program where a mock crash is staged in front of the high school before prom or graduation. This involves coordination with local law enforcement, EMS, willing students to stage the after-crash injuries and fatalities and willing parents to carry through the shock of being notified that their teen was injured or killed in the crash.
- Contact local radio or television stations for short statements (PSAs) encouraging the use of non-alcoholic beverages before school sporting events. Work with local law enforcement or a DPS Trooper to insure accuracy.

**METHOD DEMONSTRATION/  
ILLUSTRATED TALKS**

- Explain Zero Tolerance laws
- Discuss the effect of alcohol on the brain/  
liver.
- Demonstrate impaired vision with the  
DWEyes goggles

**RESOURCES: *Teen Drinking and Driving***

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

Region 6  
819 Taylor Street, Room 8A38  
Fort Worth, TX 76102  
817-978-3653  
[www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/  
Index.html](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/Index.html)

**MADD**

Mothers Against Drunk Driving  
511 E. John Carpenter Freeway, Suite 700  
Irving, TX 75062  
800-GET-MADD- National  
214-744-MADD - Texas  
Victim Services 24-Hour Help Line  
877-MADD-HELP  
[www.madd.org/](http://www.madd.org/)

**SADD**

Students Against Destructive Decisions  
255 Main Street  
Marlborough, MA 01752  
National 877-SADD-INC  
Fax 508-481-5759  
[www.sadd.org](http://www.sadd.org)

**Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse**

909 West 45th Street  
Austin, TX 78758  
866-378-8440  
[www.tcada.state.tx.us/](http://www.tcada.state.tx.us/)

**National Transportation Safety Board**

490 L'Enfant Plaza, SW  
Washington, DC 20594  
202-314-6000  
[www.nts.gov](http://www.nts.gov)

**RESOURCES:** (continued)

**National Safety Council**

1121 Spring Lake Drive  
Itasca, IL 60143-3201  
800-621-7615  
Fax 630-285-1315  
www.nsc.org/

**AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety**

607 14th Street NW, Suite 201  
Washington, DC 20005  
202-638-5944  
Fax: 202-638-5943  
www.aaafoundation.org/home/

**Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission**

5806 Mesa Drive  
Austin, Texas 78731  
512-206-3333  
www.tabc.state.tx.us/

**Texas Department of Transportation**

Crash Data Analysis and Statistics  
512-424-7121  
[www.txdot.gov/services/traffic\\_operations/crash\\_data.htm](http://www.txdot.gov/services/traffic_operations/crash_data.htm)

**Texas Department of Public Safety**

See list of DPS Troopers available as traffic safety resources at the back of the guide.  
www.txdps.state.tx.us/

**Texas Department of Transportation**

See list of Traffic Safety Specialists at the back of the guide.  
www.dot.state.tx.us/

**RESOURCES:** (continued)

**Texas AgriLife Extension Service**

Passenger Safety  
2251 TAMU  
College Station, TX 77843-2251  
979-862-1782 or 979-862-4658  
fcs.tamu.edu/safety

**Local County Extension Agents**

Listed in most telephone directories under County Government as Texas AgriLife Extension Agents

## Aggressive Driving



### **OBJECTIVE:**

*To increase awareness about aggressive driving, watch for warning signs, what to do, and how to prevent aggressive driving.*

### **PROGRAM IDEAS:**

- Invite law enforcement officers/traffic safety specialists to speak about aggressive driving.
- Present programs for high school assemblies, 4-H clubs, school organizations, community organizations and church youth groups.
  - Research web sites.
  - Invite local medical professionals to talk about stress and related behaviors.
  - Show videos on aggressive driving.
  - Discuss signs of aggressive driving.
  - Discuss types of aggressive driving you have observed.

### **EXHIBIT IDEAS**

- Make posters to show specific acts of kindness to counteract aggressive driving behavior.

## **ACTIVITIES:**

- Design a pledge to reduce aggressive driving.
- Lead a discussion on how it feels when another driver acts aggressively or cuts in front of another vehicle.
- Develop a strategy for an aggressive driver awareness campaign at local high schools.

## **METHOD DEMONSTRATION/ ILLUSTRATED TALKS**

- Discuss behavior patterns and stress management while driving.
- Explain laws and statistics related to aggressive driving.

## **RESOURCES: *Aggressive Driving***

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**  
Region 6  
819 Taylor Street, Room 8A38  
Fort Worth, TX 76102  
817-978-3653  
[www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/Index.html](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/Index.html)

**AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety**  
607 14th Street NW, Suite 201  
Washington, DC 20005  
202-638-5944  
Fax: 202-638-5943  
[www.aaafoundation.org/home/](http://www.aaafoundation.org/home/)

**Texas Department of Public Safety**  
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**RESOURCES:** (continued)

**Web sites:**

**Driving Informatics**

[www.soc.hawaii.edu/leonj/499s2000/tudela/drivinginformatics.html](http://www.soc.hawaii.edu/leonj/499s2000/tudela/drivinginformatics.html)

## Distracted Driving



**TARGET AUDIENCE:** *Teens*

**OBJECTIVE:** *To increase awareness of distracted driving, watch for warning signs, what to do and how to prevent becoming a distracted driver.*

- PROGRAM IDEAS:**
- Invite law enforcement officers/traffic safety specialists to speak about distracted driving.
  - Present programs for high school assemblies, 4-H clubs, school organizations, community organizations and church youth groups.
    - Research web sites.
    - Show videos on distracted driving.
    - Discuss ways to watch for signs of distracted driving.
    - Discuss types of distracted driving that have been observed.

### **EXHIBIT IDEAS**

- Make posters to show actions to counteract distracted driving behavior.

**ACTIVITIES:**

- Design a pledge to reduce distracted driving.
- Develop a strategy for distracted driver awareness campaign at your high school.

**METHOD DEMONSTRATION/  
ILLUSTRATED TALKS**

- Explain causes and effects of distracted driving.
- Explain behavior patterns and tips for preventing distracted driving.

**RESOURCES: *Distracted Driving***

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**  
Region 6  
819 Taylor Street, Room 8A38  
Fort Worth, TX 76102  
817-978-3653  
[www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/Index.html](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/Index.html)

**Network of Employers for Traffic Safety**  
8150 Leesburg Pike, Suite 410  
Vienna, VA 22182  
703-891-6005  
Fax: 703-891-6010  
[www.trafficsafety.org/distracted.asp](http://www.trafficsafety.org/distracted.asp)

**Texas Department of Public Safety**  
See list of DPS Troopers available as traffic safety resources at the back of the guide.  
[www.txdps.state.tx.us/](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/)

**The Texas Department of Transportation**  
See list of Traffic Safety Specialists at the back of the guide.  
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**RESOURCES:** (continued)

**Web site articles on distracted driving:**

**Insurance Institute for Highway Safety**  
<http://www.iihs.org/laws/cellphonelaws.aspx>

## Pedestrian Safety



**OBJECTIVE:** *To increase awareness of pedestrian safety, with emphasis on school zones and elementary children.*

- PROGRAM IDEAS:**
- Invite law enforcement officers/traffic safety specialists to speak concerning pedestrian safety.
  - Set up programs for elementary schools, 4-H clubs, school organizations, community organizations and church youth groups.
    - Research web sites on pedestrian safety.
    - Use local or county statistics of pedestrian related injuries or fatalities.
    - Show videos on pedestrian safety.

### **EXHIBIT IDEAS**

- Create your own exhibit.
- Set up exhibit/posters for safety fairs, county fairs, health fairs, or elementary schools.

**ACTIVITIES:**

- Sponsor a contest with elementary school age 4-H'ers or students to draw pedestrian safety posters; for example: where to properly cross the street, when to cross a street with a traffic light, younger children holding adults' hands, etc.
- Create an original video commercial emphasizing pedestrian safety. Air the commercial on school announcements or use in programs.

**METHOD DEMONSTRATION/  
ILLUSTRATED TALKS**

- Discuss pedestrian safety for all ages.

**RESOURCES: *Pedestrian Safety***

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**  
Region 6  
819 Taylor Street, Room 8A38  
Fort Worth, TX 76102  
817-978-3653  
[www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/Index.html](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/Index.html)

**Brain Injury Association, Inc.**  
1608 Spring Hill Road, Suite 110  
Vienna, VA 22182  
703-761-0750  
[www.biausa.org/](http://www.biausa.org/)

**U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission**  
4330 East West Highway  
Bethesda, MD 20814  
[www.cpsc.gov/](http://www.cpsc.gov/)

**Safe Riders Program**  
Texas Department of State Health Services  
1100 West 49<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin, TX 78756  
512-458-7111  
800-252-8255  
[www.dshs.state.tx.us/saferiders/default.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/saferiders/default.shtm)

**Federal Highway Administration**  
[www.fhwa.dot.gov/](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/)

**Walk Our Children to School Day**  
[www.walktoschool-usa.org](http://www.walktoschool-usa.org)

**National Center for Bicycling and Walking**  
[www.bikewalk.org](http://www.bikewalk.org)

**RESOURCES:** (continued)

**Texas Department of Public Safety**

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www.txdps.state.tx.us/

**Texas Department of Transportation**

See list of Traffic Safety Specialists at the back of the guide.  
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**Texas AgriLife Extension Service**

Passenger Safety  
2251 TAMU  
College Station, TX 77843-2251  
979-862-1782 or 979-862-4658  
fcs.tamu.edu/safety

**Local County Extension Agents**

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## Bicycle Safety



**OBJECTIVE:**

*To increase the use of bicycle helmets and awareness of bicycle safety.*

**PROGRAM IDEAS:**

- Invite law enforcement officers/traffic safety specialists to speak about bicycle safety and the importance of wearing helmets.
- Invite EMS or medical professionals to talk about head trauma.
- Present programs for school assemblies, 4-H clubs, school organizations, community organizations and church youth groups.
  - Research web sites on bicycle safety/ bicycle helmets.
  - Hand out bicycle safety educational materials to elementary school age classes.
  - Show videos demonstrating the correct way to wear a bicycle helmet and safe riding practices.



**ACTIVITIES:**

- Contact law enforcement for assistance in setting up a Bicycle Rodeo.
- Solicit local contributions to buy bicycle helmets to give away at programs or bicycle rodeo.
- Sponsor a poster contest with elementary age students to encourage bicycle safety. Give a helmet as a prize to the best poster emphasizing bicycle safety.

**METHOD DEMONSTRATION/  
ILLUSTRATED TALKS**

- Discuss bicycle safety.
- Demonstrate the correct way to wear a helmet.
- Demonstrate the potential hazard of not wearing a bicycle helmet.

**RESOURCES: *Bicycle Safety***

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

Region 6  
819 Taylor Street, Room 8A38  
Fort Worth, TX 76102  
817-978-3653  
[www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/Index.html](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/Index.html)

**Safe Riders Program**

Texas Department of State Health Services  
1100 West 49<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin, TX 78756  
512-458-7111  
800-252-8255  
[www.dshs.state.tx.us/saferiders/default.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/saferiders/default.shtm)

**Texas Bicycle Coalition**

P.O. Box 1121  
Austin, TX 78767-1121  
512-476-RIDE (7433)  
Fax: 512-476-7458  
[www.biketexas.org](http://www.biketexas.org)

**Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute**

4611 Seventh Street South  
Arlington, VA 22204-1419  
703-486-0100  
Fax: 703-486-0576  
email: [info@helmets.org](mailto:info@helmets.org)  
[www.bhsi.org](http://www.bhsi.org)

**National Center for Bicycling and Walking**

[www.bikewalk.org](http://www.bikewalk.org)

**Brain Injury Association**

[www.biausa.org/](http://www.biausa.org/)  
[www.biausa.org/elements/aboutbi/factsheets/BicycleSafety.pdf](http://www.biausa.org/elements/aboutbi/factsheets/BicycleSafety.pdf)

**RESOURCES:** (continued)

**Texas Department of Public Safety**

See list of DPS Troopers available as traffic safety resources at the back of the guide.

[www.txdps.state.tx.us/](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/)

**Texas Department of Transportation**

See list of Traffic Safety Specialists at the back of the guide.

[www.dot.state.tx.us/](http://www.dot.state.tx.us/)

**Texas AgriLife Extension Service**

Passenger Safety

2251 TAMU

College Station, TX 77843-2251

979-862-1782 or 979-862-4658

[fcs.tamu.edu/safety](http://fcs.tamu.edu/safety)

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## Roller Blading Safety



**OBJECTIVE:**

*To increase the use of safety gear and awareness of roller blading safety.*

**PROGRAM IDEAS:**

- Invite law enforcement officers/traffic safety specialists to speak about local laws and ordinances regarding restrictions on skating on public roads or sidewalks.
- Present programs for high school assemblies, 4-H clubs, school organizations, community organizations and church youth groups.
  - Research web sites.
  - Use local or county statistics on related injuries.

### EXHIBIT IDEAS

- Create original exhibit emphasizing safe skating techniques, safety gear and laws.
- Collect posters relating to safety gear and safe skating techniques.

### **ACTIVITIES:**

- Solicit local contributions to buy safety gear to give away at programs.

### **METHOD DEMONSTRATION/ ILLUSTRATED TALKS**

- Discuss roller blading safety.
- Demonstrate the correct way to wear safety gear.
- Demonstrate the potential hazard of not wearing safety gear.

### **RESOURCES: *Roller Blading Safety***

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**  
Region 6  
819 Taylor Street, Room 8A38  
Fort Worth, TX 76102  
817-978-3653  
[www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/Index.html](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/Index.html)

**Safe Riders Program**  
Texas Department of State Health Services  
1100 West 49<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin, TX 78756  
512-458-7111  
800-252-8255  
[www.dshs.state.tx.us/saferiders/default.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/saferiders/default.shtm)

**Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute**  
4611 Seventh Street South  
Arlington, VA 22204-1419  
703-486-0100  
Fax: 703-486-0576  
email: [info@helmets.org](mailto:info@helmets.org)  
[www.bhsi.org](http://www.bhsi.org)

**Brain Injury Association**  
[www.biausa.org/](http://www.biausa.org/)

**Roller Blading Web Page**  
[library.thinkquest.org/10615/frames/roller-blading/](http://library.thinkquest.org/10615/frames/roller-blading/)

**Skate FAQs**  
[web.skatefaq.com:81/](http://web.skatefaq.com:81/)

**Texas Department of Public Safety**  
See list of DPS Troopers available as traffic safety resources at the back of the guide.  
[www.txdps.state.tx.us/](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/)

**RESOURCES:** (continued)

**The Texas Department of Transportation**

See list of Traffic Safety Specialists at the back of the guide.

[www.dot.state.tx.us/](http://www.dot.state.tx.us/)

**Texas AgriLife Extension Service**

Passenger Safety

2251 TAMU

College Station, TX 77843-2251

979-862-1782 or 979-862-4658

[fcs.tamu.edu/safety](http://fcs.tamu.edu/safety)

**Local County Extension Agents**

Listed in most telephone directories under County Government as Texas AgriLife Extension Agents.

## Kick Scooter Safety



**OBJECTIVE:** *To increase the use of safety gear and awareness of kick scooter safety.*

- PROGRAM IDEAS:**
- Invite law enforcement officers/traffic safety specialists to speak about local laws and ordinances regarding restrictions on riding on public roads or sidewalks.
  - Present programs for high school assemblies, 4-H clubs, school organizations, community organizations and church youth groups.
    - Research web sites.

### EXHIBIT IDEAS

- Create original exhibit emphasizing safe riding techniques, safety gear and laws.
- Collect posters relating to safety gear and safe riding techniques.

**ACTIVITIES:**

- Solicit local contributions to buy safety gear to give away at programs.

**METHOD DEMONSTRATION/  
ILLUSTRATED TALKS**

- Talk about kick scooter safety.
- Demonstrate the correct way to wear safety gear and safe riding techniques.
- Demonstrate the potential hazard of not wearing safety gear.

**RESOURCES: Kick Scooter Safety**

**National Highway Traffic Safety Administration**

Region 6  
819 Taylor Street, Room 8A38  
Fort Worth, TX 76102  
817-978-3653  
[www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/Index.html](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov/nhtsa/whatis/regions/Region06/Index.html)

**Safe Riders Program**

Texas Department of State Health Services  
1100 West 49<sup>th</sup> Street  
Austin, TX 78756  
512-458-7111  
800-252-8255  
[www.dshs.state.tx.us/saferiders/default.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/saferiders/default.shtm)

**Bicycle Helmet Safety Institute**

4611 Seventh Street South  
Arlington, VA 22204-1419  
703-486-0100  
Fax: 703-486-0576  
email: [info@helmets.org](mailto:info@helmets.org)  
[www.bhsi.org](http://www.bhsi.org)

**Nova Cruz Products, LLC**

[www.scooter-info.com](http://www.scooter-info.com)

**Brain Injury Association**

[www.biausa.org/](http://www.biausa.org/)  
[www.biausa.org/elements/aboutbi/factsheets/BicycleSafety.pdf](http://www.biausa.org/elements/aboutbi/factsheets/BicycleSafety.pdf)

**Texas Department of Public Safety**

See list of Safety Education Officers at the back of the guide.  
[www.txdps.state.tx.us/](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/)

**RESOURCES:** (continued)

**The Texas Department of Transportation**

See list of Traffic Safety Specialists at the back of the guide.

[www.dot.state.tx.us/](http://www.dot.state.tx.us/)

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## Passenger Safety

### Texas AgriLife Extension Service



2251 TAMU

College Station, TX 77843-2251

979-862-1782 or 979-862-4658

<http://fcs.tamu.edu/safety>

Bev Kellner, Program Manager

Myrna Hill, Program Coordinator

Janie Harris, Principal Investigator

## Directory of The Texas Department of Transportation



### *Traffic Safety Specialists by district:*

#### **Abilene**

Brenda Mitchell  
325-676-6802  
P.O. Box 150  
Abilene, TX 79604-0150

#### **Amarillo**

Tracy Tellman  
806-356-3295  
P.O. Box 7368  
Amarillo, TX 79114-7368

#### **Atlanta**

Irene Webster  
903-799-1221  
P.O. Box 1210  
Atlanta TX 75551-1210

#### **Austin**

Jacque Magill or Allan Cantrell  
512-832-7253 or 512-832-7142  
P.O. Box Drawer 15426  
Austin, TX 78761

#### **Beaumont**

Georgette Pillitere  
409-898-5719  
8350 Eastex Freeway  
Beaumont, TX 77708-1701

#### **Brownwood**

Kristi Behler  
915-643-0463  
2495 Hwy. 183 North  
Brownwood, TX 76802

#### **Bryan**

Terri Miller  
979-778-9756  
1300 North Texas Avenue  
Bryan, TX 77803

#### **Childress**

Barbara Seal  
940-937-7145  
7599 US 287  
Childress, TX 79201-9705

#### **Corpus Christi**

Bill Strawn  
361-808-2205  
P.O. Box 9907  
Corpus Christi, TX 78469-9907

#### **Dallas**

Pat Hickman or Susan Clark  
214-320-6235 or 214-320-3067  
P.O. Box 183067  
Dallas, TX 75313-3067

#### **El Paso**

Carol Campa  
915-790-4384  
13301 Gateway West  
El Paso, TX 79928-5410

#### **Fort Worth**

Kathy Neely or Mark Schluter  
817-370-6626 or 817-370-6615  
Joel Mallard  
817-370-6618  
P.O. Box 6868  
Ft. Worth, TX 76115-0868

*Traffic Safety Specialists by district: (continued)*

**Houston**

Gary Rand or Olga Navarro  
713-802-5187  
P.O. Box 1386  
Houston, TX 77251

**Laredo**

Veronica Solis or Diana Vela  
956-712-7411 or 956-764-1212  
1817 Bob Bullock Loop  
Laredo, TX 78043

**Lubbock**

Karen Peoples  
806-748-4478  
P.O. Box 77  
Lubbock, TX 79408-0771

**Lufkin**

Kathi White  
936-633-4395  
1805 North Timberland Dr.  
Lufkin, TX 75901

**Odessa**

Robert Martinez  
432-498-4748  
3901 East Hwy. 80  
Odessa, TX 79761

**Paris**

Jolita Norris  
903-737-9200  
1365 North Main St.  
Paris, TX 75460

**Pharr**

Ruby Martinez  
956-782-2508  
P.O. Drawer EE  
Pharr, TX 78577-1231

**San Angelo**

James Whitlock  
325-947-9271  
4502 Knickerbocker Rd.  
San Angelo, TX 76904

**San Antonio**

Linda Tomasini or Sam Aquirre  
210-731-5214 or 210-731-5217  
P.O. Box 29928  
San Antonio, TX 78229-0928

**Tyler**

Larry Krantz  
903-510-9267  
2709 West Front St.  
Tyler, TX 75702

**Waco**

Cindy Parks  
254-867-2725  
100 South Loop Dr.  
Waco, TX 76703

*Traffic Safety Specialists by district: (continued)*

**Wichita Falls**

Patsy Walls  
940-720-7708  
1601 Southwest Parkway  
Wichita Falls, TX 76302

**Yoakum**

Rhonda Moorman  
361-293-4331  
P.O. Box 757  
Yoakum, TX 77995

## Directory of Department of Public Safety Officers



### *DPS Troopers*

#### **Region 1 - Garland:**

Lt. Ben Valdez  
214-861-2352  
350 West Interstate 30  
Garland, TX 75043

Cpl. Robert White  
214-861-2351  
350 West Interstate 30  
Garland, TX 75043

Trooper Rebecca Uresti  
903-893-8833 ext. 110  
1413 Texoma Pkwy.  
Sherman, TX 75090

Trooper Jean Steely  
903-939-6043  
4700 Univ. Blvd Spur 248  
Tyler, TX 75701

Trooper Sylvia Jennings  
903-792-0491  
1516 Hampton Road  
Texarkana, TX 75501

Trooper Lonny Haschel  
817-299-1310  
624 NE Loop 820  
Husrt, TX 76053

#### **Region 2 - Houston:**

Lt. Robert C. Gilbert, Jr.  
281-517-1340  
12230 West Road  
Houston, TX 77065

Cpl. Steve Hargett  
281-517-1338  
12230 West Road  
Houston, TX 77065

Trooper Richard Vasser  
409-924-5453  
7200 Eastex Freeway  
Beaumont, TX 77708

Trooper Gregory A. Sanches  
936-634-5553  
2809 S. John Redditt  
Lufkin, TX 75904

Trooper Gary Pflughaupt  
979-543-1134  
P.O. Box 599  
Pierce, TX 77467

Trooper John Sampa  
281-517-1337  
12230 West Road  
Houston, TX 77065

***DPS Troopers: (continued)***

**Region 3 - Corpus Christi**

Cpl. Charlie Ramirez  
361-698-5646  
1922 South Padre Island Dr.  
Corpus Christi, TX 78416

Trooper Travis Hall  
210-531-2261  
6502 S. New Braunfels  
San Antonio, TX 78223

Trooper Paul Waggener  
210-531-2262  
6502 S. New Braunfels  
San Antonio, TX 78223

Trooper Gerald Bryant  
361-575-2543  
8802 Navarro  
Victoria, TX 77904

**Region 4 - Midland**

Lt. Judy Alton  
432-498-2173  
2405 S. Loop 250 West  
Midland, TX 79703

Trooper John (Bubba) Barton  
432-498-2174  
2405 S. Loop 250 West  
Midland, TX 79703

Cpl. Dorothy (Kathy) Briggs  
432-332-6100 Ext. 136  
1910 IH 20 West  
Odessa, TX 79763

Trooper Phillip (Sparky) Dean  
325-795-4064  
2720 Industrial Blvd.  
Abilene, TX 79605

Trooper Shawn Baxter  
325-223-6541  
1600 W. Loop 306  
San Angelo, TX 76904

**Region 5 - Lubbock**

Lt. Steve Shatley  
806-472-2761  
1302 6th Street  
Lubbock, TX 79401

Cpl. John Gonzalez  
806-472-2762  
1302 6th Street  
Lubbock, TX 79401

Trooper Gary Rozzell  
940-325-6903  
600 FM 1821 North  
Mineral Wells, TX 76067

Trooper Wayne Beighle  
806-468-1362  
4200 Canyon Drive  
Amarillo, TX 79120

Cpl. Dan Hawthorne  
940-937-2548  
1700 Avenue F NW  
Childress, TX 79201

***DPS Troopers: (continued)***

Trooper Joe Clement  
940-851-5539  
5505 N. Central Expressway  
Wichita Falls, TX 76307

**Region 6 - Waco**

Cpl. Charlie Morgan  
254-759-7148  
1617 E. Crest Drive  
Waco, TX 76705

Trooper Robbie Barrera  
512-997-4190  
9000 IH 35 North  
Austin, TX 78753

Trooper Eddie Carmon  
979-776-3147  
1003 N. Earl Rudder Freeway  
Bryan, TX 77802

Trooper Mike Perez  
254-634-3447 ext. 123  
304 Priest Drive  
Killeen, TX 76541

Trooper Dub Gillum  
817-579-3337  
400 N. Gordon  
Granbury, TX 76048

**Region 7 - Capitol**

Trooper Garry Parker  
512-463-3318  
1500 N. Congress  
Austin, TX 78701

**Region 8 - McAllen**

Trooper Johnnie Hernandez  
956-984-5647  
1414 N. Bicentennial  
McAllen, TX 78501

## Sample Programs

### *Safety Belt Program*



*Possible materials to use during presentation: Safety belts from salvage yard to demonstrate, Safety Belts and Air Bags Fact Sheet, bag of colorful fruit candy, 9 index cards, 4 sheets colored construction paper (yellow, red, green, orange), 1 sheet of plain paper and a pencil.*



How many of you wore your safety belts on the way to school today? Do you only wear the belt when you are driving on the highway? What about driving two blocks from your house to the convenience store?

Safety belts are the most important piece of safety equipment in your vehicle. They save lives.

*(Hand out Safety Belts and Air Bags Fact Sheet)*



In the early 1980's, safety belts were required in all vehicles. Car manufacturers tried to design the safety belts for comfort and convenience to encourage the usage of the belt systems. In 1990, lap/shoulder belts were required in the rear outboard positions of most vehicles.

## ***Safety Belt Program (continued)***

- What is the law in Texas regarding teens and safety belts?

*(Listen to suggestions)*

Texas law requires every person sitting in the front seat of a car or light truck to wear a safety belt. All children under 17 must be secured in safety belts or a child safety seat, regardless of where they are sitting, whenever the vehicle is in motion. A child under five and less than 36" must be secured in a child safety seat.

Drivers can be stopped and ticketed for a safety belt violation if they or any of their passengers under 17 are not buckled up or properly restrained. Passengers 15 and over who are not wearing safety belts in the front seat can be ticketed directly.

- What to do if:

As the driver of a vehicle, with friends or brothers/sisters riding with you, how can the buckle up rule be enforced in the vehicle?

*(Listen to suggestions)*

1. Refuse to start the vehicle until everyone in the car is buckled up.
2. Explain that in a crash, any person not buckled up will become a moving projectile and will injure 1) himself 2) another passenger in the car or 3) injure the driver.

## ***Safety Belt Program (continued)***

So, if passengers refuse to buckle up for their safety, ask them to do it for the safety of all others in the vehicle.

- What to do if:

It's lunch time at school and seven friends all want to "pile" into a car to run down to the nearest fast food joint? The car has three safety belts in the front seat and three safety belts in the back?

*(Listen to suggestions)*

1. Only agree to let five of the friends ride, one person per safety belt.
2. If extra passengers ride in the car without a safety belt, they will become a flying projectile in a crash.

- What to do if:

The pickup has three safety belts in the front cab only, no back seat? Friends want to climb into the back of the pickup to ride two blocks to the nearest fastfood restaurant.

*(Listen to suggestions)*

## Safety Belt Program (continued)

1. Only agree to carry two friends buckled up in the front cab. **No riders in the bed of the pickup.**

- What would happen to the friends in the bed of a pickup in the event of a crash?

*(Listen to suggestions)*

1. May be thrown from the pickup.
2. May hit pavement, another moving vehicle, thrown into a tree.
3. May receive injuries including: broken bones, head trauma or run over by another vehicle.

- How do you correctly wear a safety belt?

Lap belts need to be worn low on the hips, not across the abdomen which could cause internal injuries in the event of a crash.

Shoulder belts should be worn over the shoulder, snug across the chest and low on the lap.

*(Discuss the four pictures on the back of the handout.)*

In looking at the pictures on the back of the handout sheet, what are the problems with each picture?

## Safety Belt Program (continued)

*(Listen to suggestions)*

Occupants wearing safety belts incorrectly as under the arm or behind the back will receive a ticket if stopped by law enforcement.

### REVIEW ACTIVITY

Before the presentation :

- On a posterboard label 3 columns and write the following questions and answers on index cards and place face down under the corresponding point value as shown.

100 Points	200 Points	300 Points
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

## ***Safety Belt Program (continued)***

### *100 Point Questions:*

- What is the most important piece of safety equipment in your vehicle? (*safety belts*)
- Who receives a citation if a 16 year old passenger is not buckled up in the front seat? (*The 16 year old passenger.*)
- Give an example of a safety belt being worn incorrectly. (*Possible answers : shoulder belt loose, lap belt high on the abdomen, shoulder belt under the arm or behind the back.*) **50 point bonus :** Can a citation be given for incorrect use? (*Yes, if the belt is worn under the arm or behind the back.*)

### *200 Point Questions:*

- What is the law regarding safety belts for any person 15 and older? (*Any person 15 and older riding in the front seat not wearing a safety belt can be ticketed directly.*)
- What is the law regarding safety belts for any person under 17? (*Any person under 17 must be belted anywhere in the vehicle - front or back seat.*)
- Give one suggestion for how to enforce the buckle up rule in your vehicle. (*Possible answers: Refuse to start the vehicle until everyone is buckled up. Explain that in a crash, any person not buckled up will become a moving projectile and will injure 1) himself, 2) another passenger in the vehicle or 3) injure the driver.*)

## ***Safety Belt Program (continued)***

### *300 Point Questions:*

- Why should a lap belt be worn low on the lap and not higher across the abdomen? (*In the event of a crash, wearing the lap belt high across the abdomen could cause internal injuries.*)
- When were safety belts required to be in all vehicles? (*The early 1980's*)
- What year were lap/shoulder belts required in the rear outboard positions of most vehicles? (*1990*)

### *How to play the game:*

- Hang the completed game board for the group to see.
- Ask a volunteer to serve as the score-keeper.
- Divide the group into teams. In groups of 30 or more create two teams - A and B. In groups less than 30 create four teams - Red, Pink, Yellow and Orange. To do this quickly and fairly pass out a piece of colorful fruit candy to each person. The color they receive is the team to which they are assigned. Provide one person from each group with a piece of colored construction paper to represent their group and act as a signal.
- Go over the game rules. 1) Raise the signal card only when the entire question has been read. 2) First team to raise signal card after question is read without jumping up or yelling

## *Safety Belt Program (continued)*

will be allowed to answer the question. If the answer is correct, the team receives the points. If the answer is wrong, the team loses those points and the other teams now have a chance to earn those points. Contact County Extension Agent about ordering incentive items from Passenger Safety to use as prizes.

*(The moderator may choose the order in which to ask the questions.)*

## **Sample Programs**



### ***Air Bag Illustrated Talk***

*Possible materials to use during presentation: Safety Belts and Air Bags Fact Sheet and deployed air bag from fire department or salvage yard*

Air bags are supplemental vehicle restraints. How many of you are driving vehicles with frontal air bags? *(ask for show of hands)*

*(Hand out Air Bag Fact Sheet)*

In frontal crashes, air bags reduce deaths by 34%. Car manufacturers are required by Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard 208 to have dual air bags in passenger cars by 1998; light trucks, multi-purpose vehicles and vans are required to have dual air bags in 1999. Air bags do prevent fatalities and reduce injuries.

There are safety precautions that need to be followed with air bags:

1. Never place a rear facing infant seat in the front passenger seat with an active air bag.
2. Front passenger seats should be pushed all the way back to give as much distance between the passenger and air bag.
3. Driver's chest should be at least 10" away from the steering column air bag.

## *Air Bag Illustrated Talk (continued)*

4. Hold steering wheel on the sides so that the arm does not cross the air bag.
5. Small framed drivers should tilt the back of the seat backwards to let their feet touch the gas/brake pedals, yet giving an extra 1" to 2" between chest and air bag. Hold a piece of paper between steering column and chest to measure distance. Demonstrate.
6. Air bags have been known to deploy up to 30 minutes after an engine has been turned off.

*(Show a deployed air bag)*

Air bags deploy at about 200 miles per hour (second-generation air bags deploy at 120 mph). The surface of the bag is generally rough and may leave a “razor burn” on the occupant’s face if it comes in contact. It has an unpleasant odor and a dusty residue from the tablets of sodium azide which generate a large amount of nitrogen gas leading to bag inflation. As the occupants move against the bag it immediately discharges the gas from the vent holes to absorb the energy and reduce the risk of injuries. When fully deployed the air bag offers additional protection to the front seat occupants. The entire process takes approximately 0.25 seconds.

Frontal air bags are designed to deploy in

## *Air Bag Illustrated Talk (continued)*

frontal crashes, not side impacts, rear or roll over crashes. In extraordinary circumstances, an air bag may deploy after the engine is turned off. Children 12 and under should always ride in the back.

**NEVER PUT A REAR FACING CHILD SAFETY SEAT IN FRONT OF A FRONT PASSENGER AIR BAG. IT CAN BE FATAL TO THE INFANT.**

Car manufacturers are producing side air bags in limited vehicle editions for extra protection during lateral crashes. Side air bags can be mounted in the side of the seat, mounted in the door, or new window bags inflate as an inflatable curtain.

Air bags, as well as safety belts, should be replaced after being in a crash.

Safety belts and air bags are important. They can save your life and the lives of your passengers. Every time you get into a vehicle, remember to buckle up.

Note: The fact sheets mentioned in this program can be ordered at no cost from Passenger Safety Texas AgriLife Extension Service 979-862-1782.

## Notes

