

Aggressive Driving

There are more people on our roadways and the number of roads have not been built in proportion to the volume. Stress plays a major factor in the way people drive and a 2,000 pound vehicle makes drivers feel invincible. People tend to think the worst of another driver's mistake and take it personally. Aggressive driving is a habit learned in childhood. Think about the behavior you model when driving. A New York Times poll in Washington D.C. showed that 42% of the residents consider aggressive drivers the biggest threat on the road. In a study conducted by AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety, it was found that in a six year period, a total of 12,828 people were injured or killed as the result of aggressive driving (218 killed; 12,610 injured), including 94 children under the age of 15.

Objectives:

- Drivers will learn how to recognize aggressive driving habits.
- Drivers will learn that traffic crashes are caused by the way we drive.
- Drivers will learn solutions to combat personal aggressive driving behaviors.

Prior to the class:

Reproduce the following handouts to distribute and use during the presentation:

- *Sign in sheet*
- *Are You An Aggressive Driver?*
- *Aggressive Drivers – Texas Road Tips*
- *Article – Aggressive Drivers*
- *Article – Set the Example*
- *Program evaluation*

Thoroughly review **PowerPoint Presentation**. Notes providing background information have been included for each slide and can be used as a script. **Words in bold type are directions for the presenter to follow during the program.**

Consider using the following optional resources:

- *Distractions and Cautions – Texas Road Tips*
- Free Safety Materials from the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety can be ordered online at: <http://www.aaafoundation.org/products/index.cfm?button=freeintro>. Supplies are limited. Allow at least 6 weeks for delivery.
- Supplemental Resources Materials from NHTSA. Allow at least 6 weeks for delivery. Free Safety Materials covering a variety of traffic safety topics can be ordered online at: <http://nhtsa.gov/people/outreach/media/catalog/Index.cfm>.

News Articles:

- *Set the Example*
- *Aggressive Drivers*

