



NEWSLETTER



BE WISER: TEEN IMPAIRED AND DISTRACTED DRIVING



NATIONAL TEEN DRIVER SAFETY WEEK

BY BE WISER STAFF

What is teen driver safety?

Car crashes are the leading cause of death for teens age 15-18 in the U.S. (NHTSA). October 16-22, 2022 is dedicated towards raising awareness of the consequences of unsafe driving behaviors for teen drivers. Another important part of this week is finding ways to decrease the numbers of fatal car crashes due to risky teen driving behaviors. In 2019, 2,042 people were killed in crashes involving teen drivers. 628 of those were the teen driver, and 45% of the teen drivers were unbuckled. Nearly 300 deaths could have been prevented with the simple act of buckling a seat belt.

Since teens are inexperienced drivers, they are more prone to engage in higher rates of speeding and distracted driving. This is an extremely dangerous combination. Distracted driving includes using a cell phone, eating breakfast, doing makeup, and even changing the station. A few seconds is all it takes for a fatal crash to happen, especially when the driver is distracted and/or speeding. Keep eyes on the road, and hands on the wheel at all times.

Be Wiser is a program designed to educate high students, middle school students, and those from the community regarding the issues that are associated with distracted and impaired driving.

For more information visit:

<https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/teen-driving>



FOLLOW THE RULES FOR THE ROAD

Your teen is in the driver's seat but
YOU'RE IN CONTROL.

Talk with your teen about the rules for the road.

Wear seat belts | No speeding
| No texting | No alcohol or drugs
| Limit extra passengers





Be Wiser Pro Tip
PARENTS: SET DRIVING
GROUND RULES AND
ENFORCE THEM!

Teen drivers remember

- Driving is a big responsibility especially if you have passengers. You are responsible for the lives of the other people in the car.
- **Be sober, stay focused, remove distractions, and drive safely.**

Tips for parents

- Your teen drivers are likely to model after the people they see drive often.
- To reduce speeding try not to get them a sports car right away, but rather a family car (sedan/van) is best.
- Make the consequences of not following the road rules extremely clear! Depending on the incident they can face adult consequences even as a minor.
- Parents are the #1 influencer

The biggest dangers for teen drivers:

- Alcohol
- Inconsistent or no seat belt use
- Distracted or drowsy driving
- Speeding
- Number of passengers in the car

If you have any questions about Be Wiser
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