



Oregon Department
of Transportation

Transportation Safety

August 2025 Newsletter

Drive Sober This Labor Day, and Every Day



Labor Day weekend, we typically see an increase in drunk-driving deaths — and that's why you'll likely see more law enforcement on the roads.

The Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over campaign, which runs from August 13-September 1, aims to educate people about the dangers and consequences of driving drunk.

- Always drive 100% sober. Even one alcoholic beverage could be one too many.
- Plan ahead: Before you have even one drink, designate a sober driver to get you home safely. If you wait until you've been drinking to make this decision, you might not make the best one.
- You have options to get home safely: Designate a sober driver or call a taxi or rideshare. Getting home safely is always worth it.

For more information, statistics and to view the new video visit the [NHTSA Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over webpage](#).

Plan Ahead for Back-to-School Safety

With only one month of summer vacation left, it's time to start back-to-school shopping. When picking out supplies and clothes, consider choosing items that have retroreflective material. Reflectors are inexpensive and add a big boost to safety during dark fall and winter mornings.

It's also a good time to think about how children will get to and from school safely. Whether they walk, ride a bicycle or take the bus, we all have a role in keeping them safe.

You can learn more and [download a safety checklist](#) from the [National Safety Council \(NSC\)](#) webpage.

You can also visit the [NHTSA.gov Back to School: Keeping Children Safe webpage](#).



National Stop on Red Week 2025 - August 3rd to 9th

National Stop on Red Week 2025 is scheduled for August 3rd to 9th. The theme this year is "Safe Stops. Stronger Communities," highlighting the importance of collective action, awareness, and accountability in building safer streets.

This nationwide campaign raises awareness about the dangers of running red lights and promotes intersection safety.



Red Light Running (RLR) Facts:

- Red-light running crashes are more likely than other crashes to cause injury.
- On urban roads, fatal RLR crashes are more likely than other fatal crashes.
- Fatal RLR crashes are somewhat more likely to occur during the day.

You can find more information and resources about National Stop on Red Week 2025 by visiting the [National Coalition for Safer Roads website](#).

Spring 2025 Work Zone Safety Billboard Design Winners Announced



Congratulations to Gavin M. from Ridgeview High School and Fatima H. from Nyssa High School for creating the two winning designs for the spring Work Zone Safety Billboard Contest. ODOT partnered with Asphalt Pavement Association of Oregon and Willamette Education Service District to give Oregon high school students a chance to design a billboard promoting safe driving awareness in work zones.

Their powerful messages will be featured on billboards across the state this year, reminding drivers to slow down and stay alert in work zones.



For more information, visit the [Work Zone Safety Billboard Design Contest webpage](#).

The 2025 Transportation Safety Conference Has Been Canceled

ODOT is facing a significant and immediate funding shortfall, resulting in staff layoffs and reduced capacity across the agency. Without additional revenue or flexibility, we are forced to make difficult decisions, including laying off hundreds of valuable employees to stay within our budget. We deeply value the connections and collaboration this event fosters and will continue to look for ways to support our partners and grantees during these unprecedented constraints.



We appreciate everyone's understanding at this time.

Tell Us What You Think!

Your voice matters! Take a moment to participate in our quick survey and share your insights. Your feedback plays a vital role in shaping safety improvements in your community and across Oregon.

Together, we can make Oregon's roadways safer for everyone.

[Take the Traffic Safety Survey Now](#)



Do you work in the transportation field? Help shape the state's safety roadmap.

In addition to hearing from the public, we are updating the [Transportation Safety Action Plan](#) and want to hear from professionals who plan, manage, or influence transportation systems in Oregon.

If you work in transportation planning, engineering, enforcement, advocacy, or policy — especially in a government agency or public-sector organization — your insights can help guide statewide strategies to reduce fatal and serious injury crashes.

- **Take the Transportation Professional Survey:** survey.alchemer.com/s3/8358182/8421500b267c
- **Open through August 31, 2025**

Questions or comments? Visit the [plan's website](#) or contact us at safety@odot.oregon.gov.

Please share this message with your community. Every response helps us better understand where safety improvements are needed and how we can make meaningful change.

Resources



[Contact us at ODOT Transportation Safety](#)

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