

## Driving Safely Through Work Zones

More than 800 people are killed and 40,000\* people are injured each year as a result of motor vehicle crashes in work zones. What many may not know is that a majority of the people killed in roadway work zone crashes aren't workers, but drivers and passengers on the roadway.

Keep each other and our work zones safe by following these important safety guidelines when driving through work zones:

- Stay alert for work zones. Keep an eye out for workers and equipment, and expect the unexpected.
- If you have a new driver in your family, practice driving through a work zone with them and talk about some of the challenges you've noticed in driving through a work zone. A teen driver is killed every three days and seven are injured each day in work zone crashes.
- Pay close attention to what is happening around you – in front, behind, and to the sides.
- Turn on your car's headlights so construction zone workers can more easily see your vehicle.
- Keep a safe distance between your car and the car in front of you. Do not tailgate because you may not see an obstacle that is close by
- Follow posted speed limits in and around work zones; do not speed. And remember, fines for speeding in construction zones are doubled.
- If traffic is being directed by a flagger, follow the flagger's instructions and signs.
- Minimize distractions. Avoid changing radio stations, eating, or using your cell phone while driving in a work zone.
- Be patient. Arriving safely at your destination is the goal.

*\* National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the National Work Zone Safety Clearinghouse*