



LOUISIANA HIGHWAY SAFETY COMMISSION NEWS RELEASE

June 1, 2018

LA Highway Safety Commission Offers Summer Driving Tips

Summer is a time for fun and family vacations, and the Louisiana Highway Safety Commission (LHSC) encourages all drivers to be aware of the unique driving challenges associated with the end of the school year.

During summer, drivers should be vigilant and distraction-free as the roads are busy with vacationers, college students and teens who are traveling to jobs and activities, according to LHSC Executive Director Lisa Freeman. And, everyone should wear their seat belts, every time, in every seat.

"Traffic safety should be top-of-mind for all Louisiana drivers as they plan their summer travels and activities," Freeman said. "Be aware of the challenges of summer driving to ensure a safe, fun season."

Follow these summer tips before you hit the road:

- Pack an emergency roadside kit.
- Check your vehicle for recalls using National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's VIN look-up: <https://vinrel.safercar.gov/vin/>.
- Perform a basic safety test on your vehicle by checking your lights, wiper blades, cooling system, air conditioner, fluid levels, belts, hoses and tires.
- Plan a sober ride.

Drivers should share the road and stay alert. "Summer weather attracts bicyclists and pedestrians as well as children playing in neighborhood streets," Freeman said. "Slow down and be prepared for the unexpected."

Follow these summer driving tips:

- Avoid distractions, including cell phone use.
- Observe Louisiana's Move Over law, requiring drivers to change lanes to give safe clearance to law enforcement officers' assisting motorists on the side of the road.
- Use seat belts and secure children in proper car seats. For more information about finding the right car seat for your child, visit NHTSA online. Also, check out the Buckle Up Louisiana Facebook page for information on having a certified child passenger seat technician ensure your child's seat is properly installed.
- Take extreme care in reversing, looking for children and pets in your mirrors.

Prevention and preparation are key to enjoying a safe summer on Louisiana roads.

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