

THE MAINE LIAISON



Edition: JP:03

Maine Bureau of Highway Safety

Summer2024

Welcome to the summer edition of the *Maine Liaison*. We hope all of you are staying healthy and safe while the rest of the Nation flocks to our home State for the best time of year!

As our profession has reached July 1, 2024, we want to remind you of the statutory requirement under LD 1613 for Law Enforcement Officers engaged in traffic enforcement to collect driver demographic data at the conclusion of each traffic stop.

The image shown is the most current version of E-stop developed to capture these data fields after each traffic stop. These data points are required for both summons and warnings. For Agencies not using

E-stop, we've heard from the Attorney General's Office about their desire to work with Law Enforcement Administrators to collect the driver demographic data in different platforms such as CAD templates for data drops as well as other Excel style templates. We will share those particulars once they are released.

Perceived Driver Info		Result Of Stop
Perceived Color: <input type="text"/>	Perceived Race: <input type="text"/>	Driver Issued Warning? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Perceived Ethnicity: <input type="text"/>	Perceived Gender: <input type="text"/>	Driver Issued Citation? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Perceived Age: <input type="text"/>		Driver Issued Criminal Summons? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
		Driver Physically Arrested? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
		Driver Or Vehicle Searched? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

TRAFFIC FATALITIES

Traffic Fatalities through: July 18, 2024

91

*comparable prior years through July 18 of respective year

*2023	*2022
62	91
*2021	*2020
66	77

In this Issue:

- E-Stop and data collection.
- Q1 & Q2 traffic fatality stats.
- Chemist Corner.
- TSRP Chat.
- Green labs.
- Bureau of HS updates.
- 100 Deadliest Days.
- 2024 Driver Educator Summit.
- Updates from the DRE training unit.
- Community Resource page.
- SADD Updates.
- NHTSA video links.

(Continued from page 1)

If you are interested in using E-stop, please call or email Jim or I anytime. We have found ways to limit costs for implementation and can provide an in-house familiarization of the program for any member of your organization.

We're trying very hard to integrate this new Legislative directive into our enforcement efforts with as little friction as possible to the LEO. High Visibility Enforcement remains one of the most effective ways to deter risky driving behaviors. Often a summons is required over a warning to sustain good driving habits. Our request on behalf of the Bureau of Highway Safety is not to allow this new driver demographic data collection to dampen the HVE missions across our State. We are the thin blue line charged with the duty to hold the aggressive and risky drivers accountable so the rest of us can remain safe on Maine's roadways.


v/R Jim & Pat



Your LEL Contacts

James Willis
James.K.Willis@Maine.Gov 207-460-6040


Patrick Hood
Patrick.Hood@Maine.Gov 207-975-0423



GREEN LAB

**CANNABIS IMPAIRMENT DETECTION TRAINING
IN IMPAIRED DRIVING CASES
FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT & PROSECUTORS**

0800-1700* LOCATIONS TO VARY, SEE WEBSITE
FREE TO ALL MAINE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PROSECUTORS
SPONSORED BY THE MAINE OFFICE OF CANNABIS POLICY
\$600 TUITION FOR OUT OF STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PROSECUTORS



Cannabis is legal and more openly used in many states around the nation: Can you detect and articulate its impairment? Today's forms (including edibles, flowers, and concentrates) have a much higher level of THC than in the past. With more cannabis of a stronger variety available, officers greatly benefit from green lab training to help recognize its presence in motor vehicle operators.

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Aug 15: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
Dirigo Safety LLC
95 Main Street 3rd Floor
Auburn, ME, 04210
Price: FREE FOR MAINE LEO AND PROSECUTORS --- Sponsored by the Office of Cannabis Policy
Non-Maine LEO is \$600 *Limited seats available*

Nov 7: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
York Police Department
9 Hannaford Dr.
York, Maine, 03909
Price: FREE FOR MAINE LEO AND PROSECUTORS --- Sponsored by the Office of Cannabis Policy
Non-Maine LEO is \$600 *Limited seats available*

Training Objectives include:

- In-depth discussion about Cannabis and its different forms, legal status, and legislative history.
- A suggested "enhanced" SFST Protocol for detecting cannabis impairment roadside as well as cannabis-impaired driving Investigation techniques including:
 - o Field Sobriety Techniques and exercises
 - o Behaviors commonly observed in people Impaired by cannabis
 - o Investigation and documentation suggestions for best practices
- Chemical testing issues in drug-impaired driving investigations
- Building a cannabis-impaired driving court case.
- Case Law updates • Hands-on Green Lab with Volunteers Cannabis Consumers
 - o In compliance with state marijuana possession laws, we present a "green" lab designed for officers to practice impairment detection skills on volunteers dosed with known amounts of cannabis and alcohol. This will provide the attendees with a gauge of the reliability of their detection skills. The lab is run by civilian instructors.



DIRIGO SAFETY, LLC
PUBLIC SAFETY ADVOCATES

Access our full training schedule by clicking this [LINK](#)

Investigation of Maine Cannabis Law Violations CLASS DATES

Sep 23: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Dirigo Safety LLC
95 Main Street 3rd Floor
Auburn, ME, 04210

Price: FREE - This course is sponsored by the Office of Cannabis Policy
Available in-person or via Zoom.

Oct 29: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

Dirigo Safety LLC
95 Main Street 3rd Floor
Auburn, ME, 04210

Price: FREE - This course is sponsored by the Office of Cannabis Policy
Available in-person or via Zoom.

Fundamentals of an OUI Investigation.

September 9, 2024
0800-1600
Lunch is provided!

Knox County Emergency Management Agency

301 Park Street
Rockland, Maine,

Price: FREE - This class is sponsored by the Maine Bureau of Highway Safety.

PRESENTED BY: DIRIGO SAFETY, LLC

TALL COP SAYS STOP
HIGH IN PLAIN SIGHT: SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION TRAINING

This workshop is for educators, prevention providers, coalition members, law enforcement, probation officers, school administration, treatment, counselors, and parents.

DATE: OCTOBER 23, 2024

LOCATION:
PORTLAND ELKS LODGE AND EVENT CENTER
1945 CONGRESS STREET
PORTLAND, ME

EVENT



Updates From

Impaired Driving Enforcement Training Unit



Maine has ten new Drug Recognition Experts! When police officers arrest a person for driving under the influence, and a breath test shows it isn't alcohol alone causing the impairment, Drug Recognition Experts are called in to determine if the person is impaired by drugs, and if so, what type of drug. They're highly trained and an invaluable resource in the fight against impaired driving.



(Continued on page 6)

Chemist Corner

MAINE CDC-DHHS:

HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL TESTING LABORATORY:

FORENSIC CHEMISTRY SECTION: TOXICOLOGY

General Health & Environmental Testing Lab (HETL) Updates:

- ◆ May 3rd, 2024 was Lauren Nikach's last day. She has taken a position as a DNA Analyst with Maine's Crime Lab. Ellen will be serving as Toxicology Supervisor, acting Forensic Laboratory Director & acting Seized Drug Supervisor until these positions are filled.
- ◆ June 1st, 2024, HETL is implementing a Seized Drug Case Activation System. HETL shall still be accepting all Seized Drug evidence, but the submission of a Seized Drug Case Activation Form by a prosecutor is required for a case to be tested.

(Seized Drug Testing department has a significant backlog that we are not able to reduce given our staffing levels. The implementation of this system is going into place due to absolute necessity.)

◆ **Intoxylizer 9000s**

- ◇ 15 instruments have already been distributed to York/Cumberland county
- ◇ 15 more instruments are being validated (Validate->Final approval->Distribute into field)
- ◇ All the 8000s HETL receives in exchange for a new 9000 will be used as band aids to provide coverage to sites that do not have an operational 8000.
- ◇ Plan for future, receive two groups of 15 instruments to validate per year (total of 30 per year) until all 8000s are phased out.

Interesting Toxicology Statistic: taken from Summary of 2023 data of blood alcohol and drug testing:

Fatal/Near Fatal MVCs (Ante & Post)		Pulled Over & Charged with OUI/DUID	
17%	Sunday	16%	Sunday
19%	Monday	13%	Monday
13%	Tuesday	13%	Tuesday
13%	Wednesday	11%	Wednesday
7%	Thursday	14%	Thursday
12%	Friday	14%	Friday
17%	Saturday	19%	Saturday

The Bureau of Highway Safety *Coordinators*

UPDATES
FROM

Grant Funded Equipment

If your Agency has received equipment such as lap-top computers, in-car camera systems, radars, lasers, etc. from the Bureau of Highway Safety as part of a past grant and its no longer in service, check with your LEL's who may be able to rehome the item or properly recycle those items.

Forensic Phlebotomy

If a Law Enforcement Officer in your Agency needs to reach a Forensic Phlebotomist, the most current list of those trained professionals can be found [HERE](#).

For more information about the Forensic Phlebotomy program, please contact Kasey.Theriault@Maine.gov.



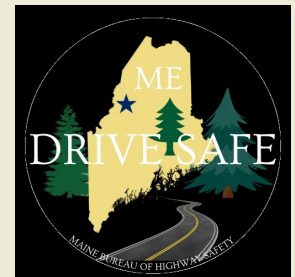
2024 Maine Driver Educator Summit

AAA Northern New England, The Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles and The Maine Bureau of Highway Safety are excited to bring together national, local and regional leaders in traffic safety and driver education for the first statewide driver educator summit. This is an opportunity to come together and share information that is a valuable part of our continued education. Learn about new products, teaching methods and the latest trends to keep our next generation of drivers safe.

This is a free event and is an opportunity to come together and share information that is a valuable part of our continued education. Lunch and breakfast will be provided.

This is approved for 8 hours of continued education by the Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

Monday, September 23 | 8:30am - 4:00pm
Holiday Inn By the Bay
88 Spring Street, Portland ME 04101
Please [register in advance](#) to attend.



**SPEEDING CATCHES
UP WITH YOU**

Click [HERE](#) to view and share NHTSA's powerful speeding campaign message targeted from July 10 through July 31, 2024.

(Continued from page 3)

Our new DREs hail from the Saco Police Department, Brewer Police Department, Rockport Maine Police Department, Presque Isle Police Department, Ellsworth Police Department, Portland Maine Police Department, Bar Harbor Mount Desert Police Department, Brunswick, Maine Police Department and Game Wardens with Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife.

Their training was supported and funded by Maine Bureau of Highway Safety, which included a short trip to Florida, where they were able to complete their field certifications and certification exam in just three days, returning to Maine fully certified.

Maine has only 89 DREs statewide; applications are being accepted now for our 2025 school in February. Please contact Don Finnegan at MCJA for information at edwin.d.finnegan@maine.gov



ME SADD

Introducing Blossom Thao as the New Maine State Coordinator for SADD:

Blossom Thao brings a decade of experience in Higher Education to her new role as the Maine State Coordinator for Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD). Her expertise in Residential Life and Student Affairs, including her tenure as the Director of Residential Life and Student Activities at Maine Maritime Academy, has equipped her with invaluable skills in crisis management, mediation, and navigating difficult conversations. Blossom has a proven track record of responding to student crises related to alcohol, drug use, sexual assault, harassment, and hospitalizations.

At SADD, Blossom is excited to shift her focus from intervention to prevention, aiming to educate young adults before they reach college to prevent costly mistakes. By

connecting stakeholders across Maine to students, she hopes to foster a community committed to safe and healthy decision-making.

About SADD:

Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) is a national organization dedicated to empowering young people to successfully confront the risks and pressures that challenge them throughout their daily lives. SADD focuses on peer-to-peer education, prevention, and advocacy to promote healthy and safe decision-making.



To learn more about SADD or to collaborate, Blossom can be reached at bthao@sadd.org.



Click [HERE](#) to view and share the summer Driving Tips.

Summer Driving Tips

TSRP Talk with Scot Mattox

CANNABIS USE VIOLATIONS AND HIGHWAY SAFETY

Since the legalization of recreational marijuana pursuant to the *Maine Marijuana Legalization Act* of 2016, cannabis use has evolved rapidly. Besides the obvious increase in social acceptance, availability, and public use, the cannabis manufacturing industry has metamorphosized the once natural plant into a wide variety of products that have multiple ingestion methods, sky-high levels of THC, and a drug purity not previously seen.

Cannabis connoisseurs can get pre-rolls, edibles, concentrates, creams, tinctures, various beverages, and more. Professional dispensaries now genetically modify and process the flower so that the cannabinoids inside, especially THC, better facilitate the experiences that users want, and prevent much of what they don't want – things the *Woodstock* generation could only dream of!

Likewise, the laws regulating this new influx of products have been in a state of flux since 2016. To get the full picture of cannabis regulatory schemes you'd have to look in three different places to start: (1) The Maine Criminal Code. 17-A M.R.S.; (2) Adult Use Cannabis 28-B M.R.S.; (3) and the Maine Medical Use of

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The Bureau of Highway Safety *Coordinators*

Cont.

The Bureau of Highway Safety welcomes a new Highway Safety Coordinator, Tracy Johnson.

A long-time Maine resident, joining the Bureau of Highway Safety after nearly 30 years in public education, most recently a technology integrator in the Midcoast area. Has worked with students K-12; the majority of experience is with middle and high school levels. Enjoys exploring Maine and traveling with her family, which includes her husband and two children (a recent college grad and a sophomore at Ole Miss). Is an avid sports enthusiast and particularly loves golf and ice hockey.

FY2025 Grant applications are open. In order to qualify for any of these opportunities, you must attend one of the following virtual workshops.

July 25, 2024 - 1:00pm to 4:00pm
July 31, 2024 - 9:00am to Noon

RSVP@ bhsgrant.mdps@maine.gov

TSRP Talk with Scot Mattox Cont.

(Continued from page 7)

Cannabis Act 22 M.R.S. Chapter 558-C. And even if these laws, are mastered by police officers they will likely change quickly. For example, in the last legislative session, there were scores of bills attempting to add to, amend, or delete, the laws regarding cannabis in Maine.

Combine this process with the effects of Covid-19 and various social factors since 2020 that have hampered law enforcement workload and recruiting efforts, and the result is a complicated regulatory scheme of a drug dangerous to highway safety that is getting less enforcement than ever before.

This article is a deep dive into all the laws surrounding cannabis use in Maine. While these laws are complicated and disorganized, there are a few fundamental concepts regarding cannabis use, possession, transfer, and transportation that law enforcement can depend upon to use for any traffic safety violation that involves cannabis. Whether it's for establishing reasonable and articulable suspicion (RAS) for a traffic stop or building probable cause (PC) for an arrest, this article reviews those, and other related concepts, to suggest common cannabis use violations that every police officer needs to know.

Let's start with the basics:

Continue reading and view the full page quick reference guide below:

<https://www.maine.gov/dps/bhs/law-enforcement/traffic-safety-resource-prosecutors#RelevantArticlesandEssays>

Underlying Statute	Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act 22 M.R.S. Chapter 558-C		Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act 22 M.R.S. Chapter 558-C		Maine Medical Use of Cannabis Act 22 M.R.S. Chapter 558-C	
	Person under 21	Qualifying Patient (QP) under 18	Person 16, 18, or 20	QP 16, 18, or 20	Person 21 & Over	QP 21 & Over
May Consume Cannabis?	There is no law prohibiting a person under 21 from consuming cannabis.	YES But cannot smoke (or vape): 22 M.R.S. § 2423-A(2) (b) - c	There is no law prohibiting a person, 16, 18, or 20 years of age from consuming cannabis.	YES 22 M.R.S. § 2423-A(2) (c)	But not in public, and not in a motor vehicle on a public way. 20 M.R.S. § 2052(2) (b).	But not in public, and not in a motor vehicle on a public way. 20 M.R.S. § 2052(2) (b).
May Possess Cannabis?	NO 22 M.R.S. § 2423-A(2) (a) 1. Over 2 1/2 oz. or, if medical, 24 M.R.S. § 2423-A(2) (b) 1. If a cannabis concentrate (made from the resin of the cannabis plant) is treated as a health under 31-A.*	YES 22 M.R.S. § 2423-A(1) (b).	NO 22 M.R.S. § 2423-A(2) (a) 1. Over 2 1/2 oz. or, if medical, 24 M.R.S. § 2423-A(2) (b) 1. If a cannabis concentrate (made from the resin of the cannabis plant) is treated as a health under 31-A.*	YES 22 M.R.S. § 2423-A(1) (a).	YES 20 M.R.S. § 2052(2) (b). QP: Possession amounts between ASAR, this and Medical Use can vary significantly.	YES 22 M.R.S. § 2423-A(1) (a).
May Furnish Cannabis to Another Person?	NO 21-A M.R.S. § 1106, 21 M.R.S. § 1108 (b) (1) (i) (1) Over 3 1/2 oz. or, if medical, 24 M.R.S. § 1105-A(1) (b) 1. If a cannabis concentrate (made from the resin of the cannabis plant) is treated as a health under 31-A.*	YES As long as: (1) only to another QP; (2) only up to possession limits; and (3) no remuneration is allowed. 22 M.R.S. § 2423-A(1) (d). QP: Furnishing any form of cannabis to a person under 20 who is not a QP in a Class C felony. 17-A M.R.S. § 1131-C.	NO 17-A M.R.S. § 1110, 22 M.R.S. § 1108 (b) (1) (i) (1) Over 3 1/2 oz. or, if medical, 24 M.R.S. § 1105-A(1) (b) 1. If a cannabis concentrate (made from the resin of the cannabis plant) is treated as a health under 31-A.*	YES As long as: (1) only to another QP; (2) only up to possession limits; and (3) no remuneration is allowed. 22 M.R.S. § 2423-A(1) (d). QP: Furnishing any form of cannabis to a person under 20 who is not a QP in a Class C felony. 17-A M.R.S. § 1131-C.	YES Provided that: (1) it is to another person 21 & over; (2) without remuneration; and (3) within possession limits. 20 M.R.S. § 2052(2) (c). QP: Furnishing any form of cannabis to a person under 20 who is not a QP in a Class C felony. 17-A M.R.S. § 1131-C.	YES As long as: (1) only to another QP; (2) only up to possession limits; and (3) no remuneration is allowed. 22 M.R.S. § 2423-A(1) (d). QP: Furnishing any form of cannabis to a person under 20 who is not a QP in a Class C felony. 17-A M.R.S. § 1131-C.
May Transport Cannabis?	NO Illegal transportation of drugs by a motorist. 22 M.R.S. § 2429 (2) (b) Possession: 22 M.R.S. § 2429 (2) (c) 1. Over 2 1/2 oz. or, if medical, 24 M.R.S. § 2429-A(1) (b) 1. If a cannabis concentrate (made from the resin of the cannabis plant) is treated as a health under 31-A.*	YES 22 M.R.S. § 2429 (2) (b). Provided the transportation is for that QP medical use of cannabis to occur on a private road use basis.	NO Illegal transportation of drugs by a motorist. 22 M.R.S. § 2429 (2) (b) Possession: 22 M.R.S. § 2429 (2) (c) 1. Over 2 1/2 oz. or, if medical, 24 M.R.S. § 2429-A(1) (b) 1. If a cannabis concentrate (made from the resin of the cannabis plant) is treated as a health under 31-A.*	YES 22 M.R.S. § 2429 (2) (b). Provided the transportation is for that QP medical use of cannabis to occur on a private road use basis.	YES Up to possession amounts. 20 M.R.S. § 2052(2) (c).	YES 22 M.R.S. § 2429 (2) (b). Provided the transportation is for that QP medical use of cannabis to occur on a private road use basis.
May Use Cannabis While Operating a Motor Vehicle?	NO Illegal transportation of drugs by a motorist. 22 M.R.S. § 2429 (2) (b) Possession: 22 M.R.S. § 2429 (2) (c) 1. Over 2 1/2 oz. or, if medical, 24 M.R.S. § 2429-A(1) (b) 1. If a cannabis concentrate (made from the resin of the cannabis plant) is treated as a health under 31-A.*	A QP under 18 may not smoke or vape "intoxicant cannabis." 22 M.R.S. § 2423-A(1) (b). QP: "Intoxicant Cannabis" includes Cannabis Concentrate and Cannabis Products. However, there are no statutory prohibitions to prevent a QP under 18 from consuming cannabis in a motor vehicle from smoking, or, vaping or drinking while operating a motor vehicle.	NO Illegal transportation of drugs by a motorist. 22 M.R.S. § 2429 (2) (b) Possession: 22 M.R.S. § 2429 (2) (c) 1. Over 2 1/2 oz. or, if medical, 24 M.R.S. § 2429-A(1) (b) 1. If a cannabis concentrate (made from the resin of the cannabis plant) is treated as a health under 31-A.*	There are no statutory prohibitions to prevent a QP who is 16, 18, or 20 years old from consuming cannabis while operating or driving a passenger in, a motor vehicle.	NO 20 M.R.S. § 2052(2) (b). QP: If the passenger in the MV is under 18, and the use consisted of smoking, 20-A M.R.S. § 2133 would still apply to that.	NO 20-A M.R.S. § 2133(1) (b).
Operating a Motor Vehicle Under the Influence	20-A M.R.S. § 2111.	NO 20-A M.R.S. § 2111.	20-A M.R.S. § 2111.	NO 20-A M.R.S. § 2111.	NO 20-A M.R.S. § 2111.	NO 20-A M.R.S. § 2111.
Is There an Administrative Suspension for OUI Drug?	NO If a non-DWI officer arrests a person for OUI drug there is no administrative suspension. However, if a BRE has PC that a person is operating under the influence of a specific drug category, and there is a confirmatory test, or that person refuses a test, then BRE may suspend. 20-A M.R.S. § 2052-1.	NO If a non-DWI officer arrests a person for OUI drug there is no administrative suspension. However, if a BRE has PC that a person is operating under the influence of a specific drug category, and there is a confirmatory test, or that person refuses a test, then BRE may suspend. 20-A M.R.S. § 2052-1.	NO If a non-DWI officer arrests a person for OUI drug there is no administrative suspension. However, if a BRE has PC that a person is operating under the influence of a specific drug category, and there is a confirmatory test, or that person refuses a test, then BRE may suspend. 20-A M.R.S. § 2052-1.	NO If a non-DWI officer arrests a person for OUI drug there is no administrative suspension. However, if a BRE has PC that a person is operating under the influence of a specific drug category, and there is a confirmatory test, or that person refuses a test, then BRE may suspend. 20-A M.R.S. § 2052-1.	NO If a non-DWI officer arrests a person for OUI drug there is no administrative suspension. However, if a BRE has PC that a person is operating under the influence of a specific drug category, and there is a confirmatory test, or that person refuses a test, then BRE may suspend. 20-A M.R.S. § 2052-1.	NO If a non-DWI officer arrests a person for OUI drug there is no administrative suspension. However, if a BRE has PC that a person is operating under the influence of a specific drug category, and there is a confirmatory test, or that person refuses a test, then BRE may suspend. 20-A M.R.S. § 2052-1.
Is There an Administrative Suspension for a Person Under 21 Possessing any Amount of Cannabis?	NO	NO	NO	NO	N/A	N/A
NOTES:	<p>*Health of the substance of Cannabis: 22 M.R.S. § 2423-A(2) (a) 1. M.R.S. § 2423-A(2) (b) 1. If a cannabis concentrate (made from the resin of the cannabis plant) is treated as a health under 31-A.*</p> <p>**A person cannot be charged with both a violation of 21-A M.R.S. § 1106 and other § 1108 or a violation of 21-A M.R.S. § 1108, but the Penalties provided in a civil law and the Transportation violation is a criminal offense in a violation.</p> <p>***Under 20-A M.R.S. § 2052 "smoking" means: inhaling combustion and § 2052(2)(b) "the act of inhaling from smoking" means: inhaling from a pipe, a cigarette, a "joint" or "bong" or other device that produces smoke or vapor.</p> <p>****20-A M.R.S. § 2111 provides for an administrative suspension of a driver for OUI drug and the person who is a Passenger in a motor vehicle. The law is 20-A M.R.S. § 2111(1) (b) and (c). The law is 20-A M.R.S. § 2111(1) (b) and (c).</p>					

Compiled by Scot Mattox, TSRP
Design Safety, LLC a contractor for
Maine State's of Highway Safety
July 2024



Community Resource Page



A Solution to Help Young Children Shine



Help Me Grow is a central access point designed to connect families to information and services about child development and community resources.

In partnership with 211 Maine caregivers and providers can contact Help Me Grow for additional support. Help Me Grow will listen, link families to services, and provide follow-up to both caregivers and referral sources.

How It Works:

Eligibility

We are available at no cost to all Maine children, birth to eight, and their families/caregivers. Parents can also call for assistance during pregnancy.

Centralized Access Point

We assist caregivers and child health providers in connecting children to the grid of existing community and State resources that can help them thrive, through a "warm hand-off" from families to resources.

Resources

We help support a network of connected service providers, that can effectively serve families in Maine who have a variety of needs.

Developmental Screening

We promote working with families to recognize developmental milestones and utilize the Ages & Stages Questionnaires® (ASQ) to assess development. If concerns are identified in the screening process, we work with families to connect to early intervention professionals for further assessment.

Consider Referring A Family When:

- You are unsure what services a family might be eligible for, but know they need support.
- A family needs additional support navigating next steps in accessing resources (CDS, WIC, etc.).
- A screening needs to be completed, or family needs support completing an online ASQ®.



Scan QR Code to the right to learn more



Non-Discrimination Notice

The Department of Health and Human Services does not discriminate.

CHOICES MATTER.



Hillari Morgan

Director of Youth Programs | CHOICES MATTER

- 207.356.5095
- hillari@alliancelms.com
- www.choicesmatter.com
- 2525 Perimeter Place Dr. Suite 136 Nashville, TN 37214

About Maine

In partnership with the Maine Bureau of Highway Safety, Choices Matter is a life changing in-school program using personal stories and interactive materials to inspire students to make the right choices both behind the wheel and in life. Please contact Hillari Morgan for more information.



What Are the 100 Deadliest Days and What Can You Do to Make them Safer?

The 100 days between Memorial Day and Labor Day, referred to as the 100 deadliest days, are nationally known as the most dangerous time for teen drivers. Studies by AAA indicate a sharp increase in fatal crashes with teen drivers behind the wheel. According to the CDC, teen drivers are three times more likely to be involved in a fatal car crash during this period.

That's why the National Road Safety Foundation has teamed up with other safety and youth-based organizations to make this the 100 Safest Days of Summer and to stop these preventable crashes from happening.

Car crashes are the leading cause of death for American teens. And, during the 100 Deadliest Days, teens are 20% more likely to be involved in a fatal crash than they are during the rest of the year.

What makes this period so dangerous? And what can we do to make the 100 Deadliest Days safer?

There are several reasons why teen fatalities increase during the 100 Deadliest Days.

School is out and teens are spending more time behind the wheel.

The inexperience of teen drivers. Teenage drivers are almost three times as likely as older drivers to get in a car crash (based on miles driven, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety).

Distracted driving accounts for 60% of teen crashes. Distraction includes but is not limited to multiple passengers, phones, and eating/drinking.

Speeding is another factor. 35% men 15-20 years old who were driving, speeding, and involved in fatal crashes in 2022. Of female drivers involved in fatal crashes, 17% were speeding.

Drunk driving. Even though the national drinking age is 21, some teens still drink

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(Continued from page 10)

and drive. In 2022, 30% of young drivers 15 to 20 years old who were killed in crashes had BACs of .01 g/dL or higher.

What You Can Do to Make the 100 Deadliest Days Safer

The good news is that there are many ways to make the roads safer during the busy summer season. Parents play a vital role, and we encourage them to be involved in their teen's driving habits.

Driver Safety Tips for Teens

- Piling passengers in your vehicle is not only distracting, but in most states, it's against the law. Follow the speed limit, pay attention to all road signs and traffic signals, and don't follow the car in front of you too closely.
- Always wear your seatbelt. The CDC reports that "seat belts reduce the risk of death by 45%, and cut the risk of serious injury by 50%."
- Don't drink and drive. Ever.
- Get plenty of rest before getting behind the wheel. Every year, around 100,000 incidents of drowsy driving are reported, resulting in over 50,000 injuries.

Focus on the road. Minimizing your distractions will ensure a safer ride!

Driver Safety Tips for Parents

- Talk to your teens. Explain the seriousness of the 100 Deadliest Days,



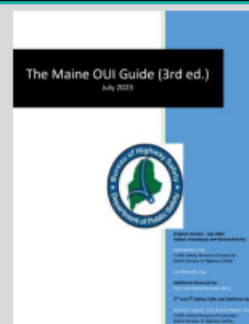
and make sure your teen understands the rules (number of passengers allowed, curfew, zero-tolerance on texting while driving, etc).

- Model good driving behavior. You know children do what you do, not what you say. Teach them to be good drivers by being a good driver yourself.

Consider a defensive driving course. Did you know that hands at "10 and 2" is no longer considered the proper driving position? Safe driving recommendations may have changed since you completed driver's ed. A refresher course with up-to-date driving techniques will make you a safer driver and a better example to young drivers.



Copies of the Standardized Field Sobriety Testing field notes are available from the LEL's.



A digital copy of the Maine OUI Guide (3rd ed.) can be found [here](#). Printed copies are available from the LEL's.

Law Enforcement Agencies mark you calendars **July 26, 2024** for this NHTSA Region I through 4 speed enforcement detail. Law Enforcement Agencies from Maine to Florida will be focused on a 24-hour speed campaign on the I95 corridor. New England states will use the "Slow Down New England" tag line to broaden the speed enforcement efforts to all roadways, not just I95.

SLOW DOWN

NEW ENGLAND

July 26
2024
From
0001-2359



WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

In the United States,
a vehicle is stolen every



31 SECONDS



PROTECT YOUR VEHICLE FROM THEFT

 [NHTSA.gov/theft](https://www.NHTSA.gov/theft)

Sources: NHTSA and NICB



MaineDOT

Traffic Camera
LINK

RIGHT NOW 50 MILLION
VEHICLES ON THE ROAD HAVE OPEN SAFETY RECALLS

Is yours one of them?

CHECK TO PROTECT



[CheckToProtect.org](https://www.CheckToProtect.org) for vehicle recalls

