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Safety Awareness Sheet

Safe Driving on Hawai'i's Roads

With so many cars on the roads today, is it any wonder that traffic accidents are on the rise? As the first feature for National Safety Month, we bring you some Safe Driving Tips for kama'aina and tourists alike.

Always wear a seatbelt!

Not only is it the law, it could save your life! Anyone under the age of 18, even if seated in the back seat, is also required to wear a seat belt.



Children under the age of 14 should not ride in the backs of pick-up trucks. Their weight and small frame can add to the risk of them being "bumped" out of the truck's bed.



Obey traffic signs. Hawai'i's roads are not very long with only 52 miles of actual Interstate (and only on O'ahu). Posted speeds, construction warnings and other roadway signs are there to ensure everyone travels at speeds conducive to the area and conditions.



Slow down in the rain. Our idyllic weather does turn damp pretty often. Roads are at their slickest when it starts to rain after a long dry period. If standing water is on the road, hydroplaning can occur.



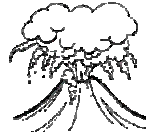
Do NOT cross flooded streets or roads. Flash flooding can happen during heavy rains. That small stream washing over the street could become a dangerous torrent at any moment!



Icy conditions may exist on the upper slopes of Mauna Kea and Haleakala, particularly during the winter months.



Fog and vog "volcanic fog" reduces visibility for everyone. Slow down and stay to the right of the roadways to avoid collisions.



Give your car a tune up. A smoother running vehicle responds better when needed.



Slow down in construction areas.



The workers and equipment on our highways and byways are working to improve driving conditions.

Pulling over to view scenery is commonplace on all islands. Get onto the shoulder as much as possible so as to not impede the traffic flow. Please exit your car opposite the side traffic in on.



Be aware of your surroundings and drive defensively, not aggressively. Road rage, speeding and racing are all acts of aggressive driving. Calm down, your destination is not going anywhere.