

CTRAFFIC SAFETY *onnection*



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Connecting Oregon's Community Traffic Safety Advocates

Volume 7, Number 7

Mini Grant Applications Now Available

The Building Safer Communities (BSC) Mini Grant and Bicycle Safety Mini Grant applications are now available. Applications are due September 11, 2009.

Some examples of BSC projects are:

- Distracted Driving Campaigns
- Teen Driver Safety
- Community Traffic Safety Events

Some examples of Bike Safety projects are:

- Helmet Distribution Programs
- Commuting Education
- Bike Rodeo Events

For more ideas or assistance with project development please contact Kate Murphy at 503-643-5620, 800-772-1315 katem@actsoregon.org.

Carpool for Cash

Kate Murphy, ACTS Oregon Community Traffic Safety Program Coordinator recently had the pleasure of meeting with Jeff Monson and Kim Curley of Commute Options for Central Oregon. During their meeting Jeff, the Executive Director, loaded Kate up with samples of media coverage the organization had received. One of the articles in the Community Life section of Bend Bulletin highlighted the organization's efforts to increase carpooling.

In March Commute Options rolled out their new carpooling incentive: the Carpool Payment Program. Over a three month period new carpools of at least two or more people, traveling 10 miles or more round trip can get reimbursed \$0.55 per mile. This rate is the Internal Revenue Services standard mileage rate.

The Commute Options Program coordinates with the local Rideshare Program. Rideshare connects local carpools with one another. If carpools are already enrolled with Rideshare they are automatically candidates for the Commute Options benefit. If users chose to participate with Commute Options they are registered with Rideshare simultaneously.

As posted on the Commute Options website Oregonians drive more than 31 billion miles a year. This accounts for 27 percent of Oregon's energy use. In Central Oregon there is a sizeable distance between where people live and where they work. Many of these residents are looking for an affordable way to make this daily trip. Commute Options feels that carpooling is the answer. Furthermore if there is additional incentive to carpool Commute Options feels that more people will participate.

Jeff Monson points out that larger cities have high occupancy vehicle lanes, and reserved parking spaces as incentives for carpools. In Central Oregon where the traffic is a little thinner and parking is still fairly plentiful these types of incentives are just not applicable.

Those who have participated in the program speak of the impact that carpooling can have on their pocket book. One participant said, "Oh yeah, are you kidding? It's a biggie. It really is." With a little dedication, compromise, and incentive carpooling seems to be on the rise in the Bend area.

This article was adapted from the Bend Bulletin Community Life section, www.bendbulletin.com/communitylife, and authored by David Jasper.



Malheur County Kids Fair

The first Saturday of June can be a busy time for many of us as we creep towards the official start of summer. One of many events that occurred on this Saturday was the Malheur County Kids Fair. This event, rain or shine, attracts many residents from the area to be educated about various types of safety.

The Malheur County Traffic Safety Commission is a supporting component of the fair. Each year they set up their bike rodeo course in order to educate, and properly fit each participating child with a helmet. Once the children have been fitted and have attended the bike safety orientation they are guided through the rodeo course. This

year the rodeo was bit slower than usual due to rain, but we still saw 197 participants. There were some children that had never even ridden a bike before. This activity at the Kids Fair creates invaluable experiences for its participants.

The Kids Fair would not happen without the coordination efforts of Angela Livas. For the past two years Angela has applied and received a Building Safer Communities (BSC) Mini Grant. These grants have helped fund her time, purchase supplies, and even help bring a safety centered stunt show to the fair. A stipulation of the grants she has received is to seek sustainable funding for the Fair Coordinator position.

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Board Member Feature



Michael Stupfel works for the Oregon State Police as the Collision Reconstruction Unit Program Manager. About two days each week he receives a page regarding a death of a motorist on Oregon’s rural state or interstate highways. He says, “My family now jokes that every time my pager sounds off an ‘angel gets their wings’.” Stupfel has been a State Trooper for over 24 years and holds the rank of Sergeant.

However, he is most proud that he works with some of the highest qualified Collision Reconstructionists in the country. Their job is to determine the cause of the worst crashes that occur on Oregon highways.

When Stupfel began his job in January 2005 he was informed that he would be assigned to be part of a traffic safety board. He was introduced to ACTS Oregon. This group is dedicated to the notion that traffic safety is the most important issue facing our communities each day.

The ACTS Oregon staff and fellow Board Directors are dedicated to the goal of reducing deaths and injuries resulting from vehicle crashes. Most recently Stupfel alongside fellow Board Director Steve Manning, reviewed and revised the ACTS Oregon bylaws. The staff has affectionately called Stupfel and Manning the “Dream Team”. Together they are the Administrative Committee for the ACTS Oregon Board of Directors. They are in charge of developing policy, reviewing the bylaws and selecting a panel of nominees for Board of Director elections for the organization.

Stupfel has been a Board Director for ACTS Oregon since August 2005 and finds the experience to be very rewarding. If you’ve ever considered being involved in a worthy cause you should consider becoming a member of ACTS Oregon and become involved in your community through one of the traffic safety programs. You can make a difference.

Carpooling with Kids



Moms who rely on carpools to get their children to school or to activities are “extremely concerned” about the safety of their kids, a national survey reveals.

The survey, conducted by the public opinion research company Strategy One, found that moms are worried about their children’s safety in other parents’ vehicles. Of the 278 mothers surveyed, all of whom had children ages 10 and under, 69% reported that they are “very or extremely concerned” about their children’s safety when the kids carpool with other parents. Among their top worries:

- 84% worry that their kids will not be properly restrained in other parents’ vehicles.
- 81% worry that drivers who are in a hurry to get to school in the morning or to an activity in the afternoon could jeopardize their children’s safety.
- 79% find children’s behavior to be the biggest distraction while driving a carpool.
- 75% cite cell phones as the second biggest distraction for drivers.

“Mothers are worried about their children when they’re on the road with others, and they are right to be concerned—2,570 children under the age of 15 were killed last year in automobile crashes,” says Bob Yakushi, Director of Product Safety and a Certified Child Passenger Safety Technician for the car manufacturer Nissan North America Inc., which sponsored the survey. Yakushi acknowledges that it can be difficult driving with children in the car, but he says drivers can maximize the safety of everyone in the vehicle by following a few simple tips.

Make Your Carpool Safe

- Make sure all occupants’ seat belts are fastened before starting your car. Check child safety seats or booster seats and seat belts to ensure kids are all properly restrained.
- Keep soft toys, games and favorite children’s music recordings in your car to entertain kids and to allow you to focus on driving.
- Don’t try to solve behavior problems while driving. Pull the vehicle over at a safe place to deal with troublesome situations.
- Do not use the cell phone when driving.

Find this and more carpooling with kids articles at www.parenthood.com/article-topics/carpooling_moms_worry_about_safety.html.

Safety in Summer Weather

As summer approaches one should not forget about the dangers that the heat of the season can introduce. Parents should never leave their children unattended in a vehicle for any reason. We encourage parents to put their children in the backseat. It is a good idea to put your purse, lunch, or briefcase in the rear of the vehicle as well. This way when you exit the car you

remember to check the back seat. In the state of Oregon it is considered child neglect to, “Leave a child under the age of 10 unattended in or at any place for such a period of time as may likely endanger the health or welfare of child.”—Oregon Revised Statute 163.545. This is a Class A misdemeanor.

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Battle Ground Technician Class

ACTS Oregon teamed up with the Traffic Safety Task Force of Clark County and offered a Child Passenger Safety (CPS) certification course in Battle Ground, WA. May 5th–8th, 2009. Everyone got a little soggy, but the class was a success!



Congratulations to the new techs who include: Amber Husted—ACTS Oregon, Kelly O'Brien, Ally

MacCaskill and Tawnia Baker—American Medical Response, Elizabeth Stillwell—Columbia Gorge SAFE KIDS, Kari Palomo, Tess Mungovan, Mindy Duarte, Jessica Stevens—Community Volunteers, Kim Brown—Doernbecher Neo Natal Care Center, Lisa Barnett—Oregon Health & Science University, Anne Chappell—Shelton School District, Amy Buchanan and Rhonda Rickey—Skyline Hospital, Brad Moon—Washington State Patrol.

Thank you to the wonderful instructor team: Doris Girt and Ron Rose—Vancouver Police Department, Mary Kay Johnson—The Children's Hospital at Legacy Emanuel, and Sandy Holt—ACTS Oregon.

Special thanks to Battle Ground Police Department and Battle Ground Fire for letting us use their beautiful facility and keeping us as dry as possible. Thank you to Doris Girt as well for all your help coordinating and making this class possible!

2009 Oregon Transportation SAFETY CONFERENCE

Facing the Challenge of Change

Registration Is Now Open!

Intensive Training Opportunities

Tuesday afternoon, attendees have three intensive training options to choose from: Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Refresher Training for officers; Introduction to AASHTO Highway Safety Manual for engineers; and Airbags: History, Science, Mechanics and Effects on People and Child Restraints: Concept, Design, Manufacture, Testing, Costs and Marketing for CPS Technicians. Attendees will be able to earn DPSST Training Credits, Profession Development Hours or Continuing Education Credits. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Tours

On Tuesday during the intensive training opportunities there will be a tour of the Historic Columbia Gorge Highway and Bridges. This tour will be conducted by Kristen Stallman, ODOT Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Coordinator and Robert Hadlow, PhD, ODOT Senior Historian. On Wednesday a tour of the Cascade Locks ODOT Port of Entry is planned. This tour will include truck and driver inspections in the Truck Inspection building, a briefing and demonstration on Green Light, and the opportunity to observe the Motor Carrier Enforcement Officers weighing trucks.

Plenary Sessions

Three general sessions are planned. The first, the National Traffic Safety Perspective will be presented by Jeffrey W. Runge, MD, FACEP on Wednesday morning.

Dr. Jeffrey W. Runge, former National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Administrator (2001–2005) and lifelong injury prevention researcher and physician, will present on topics including:

- What is killing people on the highways Understanding the epidemiology of the disease of injury
- What trends we have seen over the decade that have implications for the future
- What are the biggest pieces of the pie chart that need to be addressed
- What are the more subtle injury problems that may be ignored
- What the safety effects will be of the changing vehicle fleet toward smaller, more economical vehicles
- How the new fuel economy regulations affect safety
- What state officials can do in terms of legislation and regulation to get the most effect for the least cost and inconvenience
- How changes in EMS, emergency services, and trauma care affect the traffic safety numbers

The second Plenary Session—The Legislative Forum will feature a discussion of the 2009 legislative session and its impact on transportation issues. Legislators participating will be announced soon.

The third Plenary Session will be provided Thursday by Matthew Garrett, ODOT Director. Mr. Garrett will address The Future of Transportation in Oregon.

Meals

ACTS Oregon invites you to attend the Tuesday Dinner Reception. The Board of Directors is planning a brief annual meeting and an evening of networking.

The Awards Luncheon on Wednesday will feature the winners of the Looking Beyond the Traffic Ticket Awards and the Oregon Transportation Safety Awards. This is a great opportunity to hear about the winning efforts of traffic safety advocates statewide and show them our appreciation. Be sure to submit your nominations—they are open until August 14th.

There will also be an Opening Luncheon on Tuesday and breakfasts on Wednesday and Thursday. Wednesday dinner is on your own.

More information is available on the ACTS Oregon website. We hope to see you in Hood River!

Safety in Summer Weather

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From 1998 to 2007, approximately 365 children—most of them aged three and younger died from heat stroke after being trapped in a car.

Research conducted by San Francisco State University revealed that more than half of these children were accidentally left behind in a closed, parked car by parents or caregivers while nearly

a third of these children were trapped while playing in a vehicle unattended. Sadly, one in five children who died were intentionally left in the vehicle by an adult.

Heat is more dangerous to children than it is to adults. When left in a hot vehicle, a young child's core body temperature may increase three to five times faster than an adult. This could cause permanent injury or even death. The same consideration should be given to pets as well.

Some information in this article was obtained through the Washington Safety Restraint Coalition newsletter.





Check Up Clinics and Fitting Stations

Please check www.childsafetyseat.org under Child Passenger Safety/Calendar for current list, specific dates, locations and times.

Date	City	Location	Address	Time
7/08/09	McMinnville	Fire Department	Call 503-435-5803 for Appointment	
7/09/09	Ontario	Fire Department	444 NW 4th Street	3:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.
7/09/09	St. Helens	Columbia River Fire & Rescue	105 S 12th Street	4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.
7/11/09	Newberg	Fire Department	3100 Middlebrook Drive	9:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M.
7/15/09	Corvallis	Fire Department	400 NW Harrison Street	8:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.
7/15/09	Bend	Fire Department	1212 SW Simpson	10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.
7/16/09	Beaverton	NW Jeep	10600 SW Canyon Road	5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.
7/18/09	Albany	Fire Department Station #12	120 SE 34th Street	8:00 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.
7/18/09	Burns	Teague Motor Company	Monroe Street	9:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.
7/18/09	Salem	Hospital	Mission & Capitol	11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
7/25/09	Damascus	Safeway Market	20151 SE Highway 212	10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.
7/25/09	Portland	Legacy Emanuel Hospital Parking #3	2801 N Gantenbein	10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.
8/06/09	Redmond	Fire Department	341 Dogwood Avenue	10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.

Free Training

2009 Youth Traffic Safety Training for School Resource Officers

Don't miss this one-day training for School Resource Officers held at the Chemeketa Brooks Training Center, 4910 Brooklake Road NE in Brooks, Oregon on Friday, August 28th from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

To register visit, www.oregon.gov/ODOT/TS/.

Malheur County Kids Fair

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BSC Mini Grant funds are intended to launch projects with hopes they can become self sustaining. Angela has sought out support through community businesses and employment outreach programs.

This has been a very successful grant project. Want to learn more about Mini Grants? Please contact Kate Murphy at 503-643-5620, 800-772-1315 or katem@actsoregon.org.



2009 Oregon Transportation SAFETY CONFERENCE

Facing the Challenge of Change

Join ODOT—Transportation Safety Division and ACTS Oregon,

October 27 to 29

at the Best Western Hood River Inn