



MEDIA ADVISORY

Monday, April 8, 2002

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Roadway Safety Partners Kick-Off National Work Zone Awareness Week Ceremony in Md. Features Unveiling of Memorial to Honor Those Killed in Work Zones

Federal Highway Administrator Mary E. Peters will join national transportation organizations and state and federal officials to kick off the third-annual National Work Zone Awareness Week at an event on **Tuesday, April 9**, that includes the unveiling of the National Work Zone Memorial – a tribute to men, women and children killed in roadway work zones nationwide. Congressman James L. Oberstar (D.-Minn.) will unveil the Memorial with the assistance of surviving family members in attendance. Following the unveiling, the Memorial will travel to Penn., then on to over a dozen other locations nationwide to help educate the public in work zone safety issues.

The event begins at 10 a.m. at a Ritchie Marlboro Road work zone in Capitol Heights, Md. Directions to the venue: http://www.atssa.com/pubinfo/nwz_memorial.htm then click on the “2002 Driving Directions” link.

National Work Zone Awareness Week is a national effort to urge motorists to drive safely in roadway work zones. Participants in the event include the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), the American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA) and state, local and private sector partners.

Safety tips for work zones include:

- **Stay alert.** *Unplug from distractions like the cell phone, conversations, and onboard media. Quiet the kids and give changing roadway conditions your full attention.*
- **Read the road.** *Work zone signs and devices give you critical safety information – and can change from day to day.*
- **Courtesy counts.** *And cuts congestion. Lose a few seconds to give another driver a break, save hours in bottlenecks and accidents -- and maybe your life.*
- **Follow speed limits.** *More than eight out of ten people killed in work zone accidents are drivers, so the life you save by maintaining safe speeds may be your own.*
- **Give yourself space.** *Maintain adequate and safe distances from workers and other vehicles. You'll have time and space to react to unexpected changes – including the actions of drivers who may not be work zone safety conscious.*
- **Give 'em a brake!** *Roadway workers want to get home to their loved ones, too. They're doing dangerous work to keep you – and America – moving.*

Members of the media requiring transportation to and from the venue – transportation will depart from Saint Dominic's Rectory, 630 E Street, S.W. (Washington, D.C.) at 8:30 am. Please RSVP to Jennifer Gavin at (202) 624-3690 by noon, Monday, April 8 if you require/desire transportation.)

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