



VDOT Marks Work Zone Awareness Week

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This week, the Virginia Department of Transportation is marking its tenth anniversary of Work Zone Awareness Week. VDOT and Virginia Transportation Construction Alliance (VTCA) employees team up to make work zone safety presentations to high school driver education classes in Virginia.

About 160 volunteers have spoken to more than 21,000 students so far this school year, and since the statewide program began in 2003, nearly 93,000 teens have heard the message.

The latest statistics show that in 2006, 17 people died and almost 1,100 were hurt in work zones across the state. Highway construction is one of the most dangerous professions in the country, but four out of every five people killed in work zones are drivers.

"It is so important that we reach out to these young drivers and share the lesson of work zone safety awareness - not just during April in observance of National Work Zone Awareness Week, but year-round," said VDOT Commissioner David S. Ekern.

VDOT has observed Work Zone Awareness Week every April since 1997.



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