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April 5th, 2007

## Work Zone Safety Week Kicks Off Near Wilson Bridge

Apr 3rd - 1:46pm

Hank Silverberg, WTOP Radio

ALEXANDRIA, Va. - If you've ever changed a tire on a small shoulder, you know how close those other cars can get. For people doing their jobs in a work zone, that's what it's like every day.

That's part of the reason April 1 through April 7 is National Work Zone Awareness Week. This year's theme: "Signs of Change."

The program, now in its 10th year, stresses the importance of safe and cautious driving in roadside construction zones.

The big, orange, "Signs of Change" placards motorists may see around the area are not there to brag about good road projects.

Of the 1,100 work zone fatalities last year, 80 percent were drivers and their passengers. Seventeen of those deaths were in Virginia, and 15 were in Maryland.

"Slow down, slow down," says Andy Anderson, a senior manager for one of the contractors on the Woodrow Wilson Bridge project.

"We have a lot of people working here that would like to go home to their families every night," he says, standing on one of the unfinished flyover ramps near the bridge.

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