

Mid-Atlantic Work Zone Traffic Safety

Did you know that four of five vehicle crash victims are motorists, not highway workers? The partnership of the Mid-Atlantic Foundation for Safety and the Federal Highway Administration (FHA) is promoting a campaign for the safety of highway workers and motorists in specified highway improvement zones. No doubt you've seen the construction crews on I-495 beltway, the north area road to Dulles airport, highway 28 to Route 7, the I-66 corridor, and numerous other locales.

Any crash holds the potential for injuries, much less fatalities. And in construction work zones it becomes critical that drivers navigate not only the reduced lane configurations, but pay attention to workers on the pavement walking with equipment. The leading causes of crashes have been reported as driving too fast for the road conditions, and failure to notice human figures alongside the highway. With spring arriving and the increase of driver traffic, the potential for accidents in the work zones becomes amplified.

To help prevent injurious contact between highway workers and motorists, the Mid-Atlantic Foundation and the FHA have launched a campaign to reduce the number of instances of contact between the two. They have actually designated a week for increased police presence in those work zones, including cameras to record speeding drivers. The week of April 4th -8th 2011 is National Work Zone Awareness Week.

Let's be safe out there!