



# SAFETY TALK

Environmental Health and Safety Newsletter

June 2025

## National Safety Month—Driver Safety

More than 42,000 people die in crashes every year on U.S. roads. That comes to about 115 deaths every day – or nearly five deaths every hour. Many of those deaths are the result of incidents that take place during the workday or during the commutes to and from work.

### Buckle up for safety

Over 90% of drivers and passengers in the U.S. wear their seat belts, yet more than half of vehicle occupants killed in crashes are unbuckled. Seat belts are simple, inexpensive, and effective at saving lives and preventing injuries.

### Distracted Driving—There are three main types of distractions:

- Visual - taking your eyes off the road
- Manual - taking your hands off the wheel
- Cognitive - taking your mind off what you are doing

Distracted driving is any non-driving activity a person engages in that has the potential to distract them from the primary task of driving and increases the risk of crashing. While all distractions can endanger drivers' safety, texting is the most alarming because it involves all three types of distraction.

### If you get in an accident on campus:

- When you get into an accident and must file a police report, call: 631-632-3333. Be sure to advise the dispatcher if anyone is hurt and in need of medical attention.
- You are required by the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law to file a crash (accident) report if you are involved in any crash where there is damage to the property of one individual (including yourself) that is more than \$1,000. The report must be filed within 10 days.
- Accident reports are required when there is any damage to state property in the accident.
- If the vehicles are drivable and it is safe to do so, you can move them from the lane of travel to a safer location until police arrive. Remain in the vehicle with your seatbelt on and avoid standing in an active roadway. Turn your hazard lights on.

Date:	
Department:	
Supervisor ( <i>please print</i> ):	
Supervisor Signature:	
Employee Participants: <i>**Please Print Clearly**</i>	Signature