# Environmental Health & Safety

Expect the UnExpected, Driving Down Distraction

# April 2015—Distracted Driving and Work Zone Awareness

## **Distracted Driving Awareness Month**

National Safety Council (NSC) has declared April as Distracted Driving Awareness Month. It is estimated that 1 in 4 crashes involve cell phones. Since the NSC mission includes safety at work, at home, in the community and on the road, they are also reminding others to never assume the driver sees you. It is estimated that drivers talking on cell phones, handheld or hands-free, may miss seeing 50% of what's around them.

Maintaining awareness while driving on a campus is extremely important as we are all too familiar with students that are riding bikes, listening to music and totally unaware of their surroundings. Provided is a copy of NSC's *Driving Down Distraction* infographic which outlines some of the risks of distractive driving. This information, along with a 5 minute safety discussion covering the information outlined on NSC's fact sheet titled *A Habit Worth Breaking*, is a great way to review distractive driving awareness and remind employees of the importance of being aware of their surroundings. Both of these documents are available under more details.

#### More Details

### National Work Zone Awareness

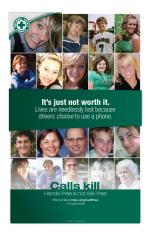
National Work Zone Awareness Week was March 23-27, 2015. This is a time when Alabama Struck By Alliance comes together to publicize the dangers posed to workers and motorists in highway work zones. The 2015 campaign was to "Expect the UnExpected" and bring attention to the safety of work zone workers and motorists driving through these work zones. This year's message was simple, "The next time you are driving through a work zone remember to Slow Down, Stay Alert and Expect the UnExpected!" A copy of this year's promotional poster is included under more details and can be used during your discussions on distracted driving and work zone awareness.



#### Pull to the Right



Tuscaloosa Fire & Rescue has released their, "Pull to the Right for Sirens & Lights" 2015 video. Remind all employees of the importance of pulling to the right to allow access for emergency vehicles. This video can be viewed <u>here</u>.



#### More Details

Questions or comments? Email Christy Herron at cherron@fa.ua.edu or call 205-348-5939.