



**STARK COUNTY**

**SAFETY COUNCIL**

**member news**

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## Travel Safely Through Work Zones

*Provided by Randy Martin, Chairman, Stark County Safety Council and Safety Director, The Beaver Companies*

**E**ach year National Work Zone Awareness Month is April, cumulating with the week of April 20-24 being the main emphasis, this is held to bring national attention to safety issues in work zones. Work zones are a necessary part of the life cycle of our streets, roads, and highways. They provide a safe area for workers and a safe route for road users around needed road work activity. Crashes in and around work zones impact everyone, to protect workers and road users, follow these tips for safe travel through work zones and when working in work zones. **Remember most of the injuries and fatalities that happen in the work zone, are with the traveling public that are driving through the zone.**

**Be Prepared.** Before getting on the road, check phone apps, transportation agency websites, and the radio for the latest traffic information. With knowledge of active work zones, you can better plan your trip. Change your start time or, if possible, find alternative routes that avoid work zones altogether.

**Wear Your Seatbelt.** Seatbelts save lives. They are your best defense in a crash and are the law.

**Obey Road Crews and Signs.** Follow the posted speed limit. Dropping your speed to the posted speed limits only adds a few seconds to your daily commute. Cones, barrels, and warning signs help facilitate the movement of traffic in and around work zones. Flaggers are there to get you safely through the work zone, so pay attention to the directions they are giving you.

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Like us on Facebook-[www.starkcountysc.com](http://www.starkcountysc.com).



SCSC

**Free Live Webinar**

**SPECIAL DATE & TIME:  
Tuesday, April 20  
Noon**

**"The Effects of Blue  
Light"**

**Delia E. Treaster, Ph.D, CPE,  
Ergonomic Technical  
Advisor for Ohio Bureau of  
Worker's Compensation.**

**Register early - space is limited.  
[www.starkcountysc.com](http://www.starkcountysc.com)**

**Wear orange  
"Go Orange Day"  
April 28th**

**See page 3 for more information.**



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**Watch for Workers.** Between 2013 and 2019, **work zone** fatalities increased 42%. In 2019, 67% of highway contractors reported **work zone** crashes. In 2019, over 115,000 **work zone** crashes were estimated to have occurred resulting in over 39,000 injuries and 842 fatalities.

**Use Caution Around Large Vehicles.** Large vehicles have a slower reaction time, so do not make sudden lane changes in front of trucks. On the job site these trucks always have the right of way, make sure you have eye contact with the driver before approaching.

**Remember, Protect Everyone.** Be respectful of workers and fellow drivers. We need everyone to work together to ensure we are all protected in work zones. ***Put your phone down and obey the speed limit!***



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION RE: UPCOMING SAFETY COUNCIL EVENTS

The Stark County Safety Council has is planning some great speakers and topics for the FREE safety webinars. We hope that you will join us by staying safe and engaged throughout FY21. Even though we cannot meet in person we are still available for your safe-



ty needs. Please feel free to contact the Stark County Safety Council with any questions at (330) 456-7253 or [scsc@cantonchamber.org](mailto:scsc@cantonchamber.org).

**For the latest info on COVID-19 visit [www.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://www.coronavirus.ohio.gov)**

**For the latest information on COVID-19s effect on BWC, email [BWCCOVID19@bwc.state.oh.us](mailto:BWCCOVID19@bwc.state.oh.us).**

*Safety Tip of the Month*

# 2021 National Work Zone Awareness Week is April 26-30

*By: Stephen Gronow, Stark County Engineers Office and Stark County Safety Council Member*

**N**ational Work Zone Awareness Week (NWZAW) is an annual event that focuses national attention on worker and motorist safety in work zones. This year marks the 21th anniversary of the first national event, held in Virginia in 2000. The site where the kick-off event is held now alternates each year from being hosted in the Washington, D.C., area to different locations across the United States.

This year, the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) is hosting the 2021 National Work Zone Awareness Week kick-off event on April 27 with the theme, “Drive Safe. Work Safe. Save Lives.” The themed poster features a vehicle driving along a winding road surrounded by work zone technologies that make work zones safer for workers and motorists.

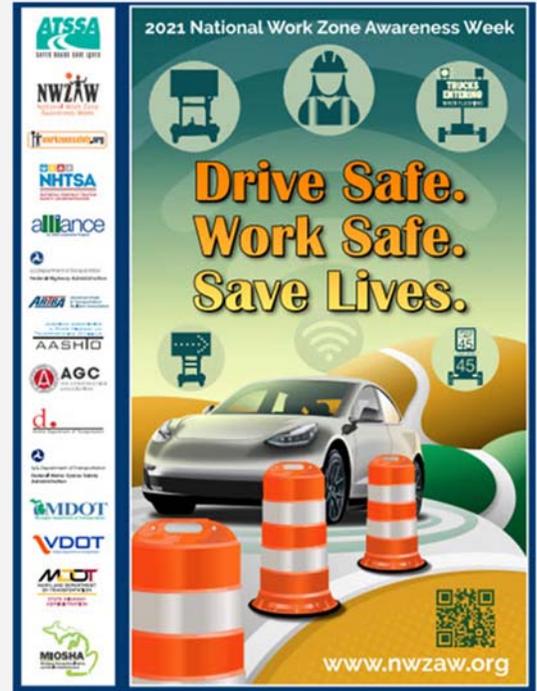
**Drive Safe.** A reminder that work zones need everyone’s undivided attention. When approaching a work zone, motorists should always slow down, follow all posted signs, be alert, and remain calm. Risky driving behavior affects more than just the driver – everyone’s lives and families are at stake.

**Work Safe.** Technology is helping to make work zones safer by collecting data and automating processes, which can remove workers from dangerous situations and provide motorists with important information. It is also a reminder that work zone safety begins with workers who are dedicated to safety.

**Save Lives.** If we **ALL** work together, we can achieve zero deaths on our roads and in our work zones!



**Go Orange Day!** National Go Orange Day is celebrated during National Work Zone Safety Week. This year it will be on Wednesday, April 28, 2021. The event has become a staple of NWZAW and is a time for individuals and organizations across the country to express their support for work zone safety by wearing orange. In an effort to stop work zone crashes, this nationwide effort was first introduced by the FHWA as a new component of NWZAW in 2016. ATSSA has since organized and sponsored a social media campaign as part of its contribution to the effort. Please support our Road Worker’s by going orange on April 28<sup>th</sup>!



# ROBIN'S CORNER

By Robin Watson, Ohio BWC Representative



Bureau of Workers'  
Compensation



## **Q: When do I take my fall protection equipment out of service?**

A: Fall protection and fall rescue equipment shall be taken out of service when:

- Involved in a fall or impacted
- An inspection reveals that it may no longer serve the required function,
- The equipment shows signs of damage or wear
- The required inspection interval has been exceeded, or
- The equipment is past the manufacturers service life



All fall protection and fall rescue equipment that has been inspected and determined to be damaged and no longer adequate for service shall be tagged "DO NOT USE" or destroyed to prevent use.

A logo for Stark County. It features a large, dark blue, curved arrow pointing from left to right. Below the arrow, the words "STAY in SAFE" are written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The word "in" is smaller and positioned inside a dark blue outline of the state of Ohio. Below "STAY in SAFE", the words "Stark County" are written in a black, cursive font.

**STAY in SAFE**  
*Stark County*

# FREE BWC SAFETY CLASSES



All BWC “in-person” classes have been cancelled until further notice.

The BWC Library has a “Streaming Videos” service from “Training Network NOW”. There are approximately 260 videos that can be streamed for **FREE**. The videos are anywhere between 4 minutes – 20 minutes long. Please email the library at [www.library@bwc.state.oh.us](mailto:www.library@bwc.state.oh.us) to set up an account to use this service.

## Resources

- For the latest info on COVID-19 visit [www.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://www.coronavirus.ohio.gov)
- For the latest information on COVID-19s effect on BWC, email [BWCCOVID19@bwc.state.oh.us](mailto:BWCCOVID19@bwc.state.oh.us).
- The BWC Library creates a monthly ‘Safety Update’ available at [www.bwc.ohio.gov](http://www.bwc.ohio.gov)
- Occupational Health & Safety Administration—[www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)

**Your Stark County  
Safety Council is  
hoping you are well  
and staying safe.**

**If you have any questions,  
please contact  
Angie Glancy at  
[scsc@cantonchamber.org](mailto:scsc@cantonchamber.org)  
or (330) 456-7253**

## Safety Council Officers & Contributing Members

**Chairman:** Randy Martin  
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*Stark County Safety Council  
Photos From the Archives*

