



Safe Driving on Vacation

Summertime is the perfect time for vacation. This means more people are on the road, traveling to places they're not familiar with. This leads to more congestion on the highways and more accidents. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that there are an average of 3,600 motor vehicle accident deaths each July.

VEHICLE MAINTENANCE



Many accidents are the direct result of inadequate vehicle maintenance. Have your vehicle inspected and maintained to ensure your travel goes smoothly. A simple blown tire will delay you, endanger your safety, and could cause a serious road hazard for other drivers.



PLAN YOUR ROUTE

Familiarize yourself with your route and possible detours. Check weather and construction ahead of time to avoid dangers and delays. Oftentimes, an alternative route is faster and safer.



DON'T RUSH

Plan extra time to stop and eat, refuel, and stretch. Get plenty of sleep before your trip. If you get drowsy, change drivers until you're rested.

NAVIGATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

GPS or other technology can help guide your way, but some apps will ask you to interact by updating road hazards, conditions, and law enforcement. However, making these updates while driving will distract you and could lead to a serious accident.



AVOID DISTRACTIONS



Long drives can be boring and tedious. Stay alert and resist physical, mental, and visual distractions. Plan additional stops to return calls and text messages. Other passengers in your vehicle need to understand that for everyone's safety, driving is your primary responsibility. They should avoid engaging you as much as possible.