



In 2017, 880 people were killed in crashes that involved red light running.

Source: NHTSA data

National Stop on Red Week
#StopOnRed



The American Trauma Society, Pennsylvania Division (ATSPA) is a non-profit organization, dedicated to trauma prevention and mitigation through education and advocacy.

For more information visit:
www.atspa.org

NATIONAL STOP ON RED WEEK

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS), in 2018, an estimated 139,000 people were injured in red light running crashes. In the same year, 846 people were killed in crashes that involved red light running. About half of those killed were pedestrians, bicyclists and people in other vehicles who were hit by the red light runners.

Created by the Federal Highway Administration, National Stop on Red Week aims to educate drivers about the dangers of red-light running and to reduce the number and severity of traffic crashes.

“Red-light running causes countless injuries and fatalities every year, with a large number of those deaths being innocent pedestrians, cyclists and passengers in vehicles hit by the red-light runner,” said Krista Brands, ATSPA Chief Executive Officer. “These injuries and deaths are entirely preventable. Motorists need to be aware of their surroundings and the dangers they present.”

IIHS studies in Oxnard, California, and Fairfax, Virginia, reported reductions in red light violation rates of about 40 percent after the introduction of red light cameras. In addition to the decrease in red light running at camera-equipped sites, the effect carried over to nearby signalized intersections not equipped with red light cameras. When it comes to crash reductions, an IIHS study comparing large cities with red light cameras to those without found the devices reduced the fatal red light running crash rate by 21 percent and the rate of all types of fatal crashes at signalized intersections by 14 percent.

For more information on National Stop on Red Week, please visit the [National Coalition for Safer Roads](#).

Out of Harm's Way

The Trauma Prevention Publication

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TOP NEWS TOPICS

- National Stop on Red Week
- August is...Back to School Month
- Safe + Sound
- Surviving Severe Storms
- July Updates

AUGUST IS ... BACK TO SCHOOL MONTH

With the first day of school quickly approaching, it is important to remember that you are sharing the road with bikers, pedestrians and buses. Many kids will be flooding the streets on foot, on bikes and even some in cars. Staying alert and planning is key to safety.

Here are some tips to help with your new morning commute:

- Leave a little early. Giving yourself enough time to get to where you're going can reduce stress, road rage and crashes.
- Stay Alert. Keep an eye out for pedestrians, cyclists and other drivers.
- Stop when a bus stops. Motorists must stop at least 10 feet away from school buses that have their red lights flashing and stop arm extended.

Parents and children also play a huge role in safety as well:

- Ensure that children are paying complete attention to where they are walking. Encourage them to put their devices down and remove headphones.
- Inform children that they should cross at the corner of the street, utilize available crosswalks, and always look left, right, left before crossing.
- Children should always walk on the sidewalk. If a sidewalk isn't available, ensure children know to walk facing traffic.

Caregivers should talk with children about the importance of always being safe while on the bus.

- Arrive to the bus stop five minutes early to avoid running across the street to catch the bus. Never run after the school bus after it has left.
- When the school bus is moving, always stay in your seat.
- Walk at least ten feet in front of the bus when crossing so that the driver can see you.
- Talk quietly so that you do not distract the driver.

Bus safety for Motorists:

- Motorists must stop at least 10 feet away from school buses that have their red lights flashing and stop arm extended.
- Motorists must stop when they are behind a bus, meeting the bus or approaching an intersection where a bus is stopped.
- Motorists following or traveling alongside a school bus must also stop until the red lights have stopped flashing, the stop arm is withdrawn and all children have reached safety.
- If physical barriers such as grassy medians, guide rails or concrete jersey barriers separate oncoming traffic from the bus, motorists in the opposing lanes may proceed.
- **DO NOT** proceed until **ALL** children have reached a place of safety.



Homeschooling can present it's own challenges and safety hazards. To ensure child safety at home, here a few tips:

- Supervise outside activities. No one wants to be cooped up all day, especially children. Some homeschool curriculums will require physical education. Children will need to be supervised during this time to ensure safety.
- Talk to children about strangers. Children should not answer the phone or door without supervision.
- Prepare for an emergency. Schools hold drills for a reason, to prepare children in case of emergency. This is a good time to go over emergency exits, family meeting places and how to dial 911.
- Internet safety is important. Homeschooled children will spend more time on electronics. Parents should talk with their children about internet safety and cyber bullying.
- Test projects before giving them to kids. Activities are objectively the best part of school learning. Some projects can present unknown dangers and may not be age appropriate. Parents should do a run through prior to presenting the project to their children so that they can prepare for potential hazards.

AUGUST 2021 OBSERVANCES

Monthly Observances:

- Back to School Month
- National Children's Eye Health and Safety Month
- National Immunization Month

Weekly or Daily Observances:

- August 1-7: Stop on Red Week
- August 9-15: Safe + Sound Week
- August 31: International Overdose Awareness Day

SAFE + SOUND WEEK

Safe+Sound Week is a nationwide event taking place Aug. 9-15, 2021. Led by Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), it is meant to raise awareness and understanding of the value of safety and health programs that include management leadership, worker participation, and a systematic approach to finding and fixing hazards in workplaces.

Successful safety and health programs can proactively identify and manage workplace hazards before they cause injury or illness, improving sustainability and the bottom line.

If you want to start a safety and health program, consider the following:

- **Lead by example.** Practice safe behaviors yourself and make safety part of your daily conversations with workers.
- **Provide training.** Train workers on how to identify and control hazards in the workplace, as well as report injuries, illnesses, and near misses.
- **Address emergencies.** Identify foreseeable emergency scenarios and develop instructions on how to respond in each case. Meet to discuss these procedures and post them in a visible location in the workplace.
- **Seek input on workplace changes.** Before making significant changes to the workplace, work organization, equipment, or materials, consult with workers to identify potential safety or health issues.
- **Make improvements to the program.** Set aside a regular time to discuss safety and health issues, with the goal of identifying ways to improve the program.

More information on the benefits of and how to start a safety and health program are available at [OSHA's website](#).

SURVIVING SEVERE STORMS

According to the National Weather Service, severe thunderstorms are officially defined as storms that are capable of producing hail that is an inch or larger or wind gusts over 58 mph. Hail this size can damage property such as plants, roofs and vehicles. Wind this strong is able to break off large branches, knock over trees or cause structural damage to trees. Some severe thunderstorms can produce hail larger than softballs or winds over 100 mph, so please pay attention to the weather so you know when severe storms are possible. Thunderstorms also produce tornadoes and dangerous lightning; heavy rain can cause flash flooding.

Here is what your family should do to prepare ahead:

- **Be Weather-Ready:** Check the forecast regularly to see if you're at risk for severe weather. Listen to local news or a NOAA Weather Radio to stay informed about severe thunderstorm watches and warnings. Check the Weather-Ready Nation for tips.
- **Sign Up for Notifications:** Know how your community sends warnings. Some communities have outdoor sirens. Others depend on media and smart phones to alert residents to severe storms.
- **Create a Communications Plan:** Have a family plan that includes an emergency meeting place and related information. Pick a safe room in your home such as a basement, storm cellar or an interior room on the lowest floor with no windows. Get more ideas for a plan at: <https://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan>
- **Practice Your Plan:** Conduct a family severe thunderstorm drill regularly so everyone knows what to do if damaging wind or large hail is approaching. Make sure all members of your family know to go there when severe thunderstorm warnings are issued. Don't forget pets if time allows.
- **Prepare Your Home:** Keep trees and branches trimmed near your house. If you have time before severe weather hits, secure loose objects, close windows and doors, and move any valuable objects inside or under a sturdy structure.
- **Help Your Neighbor:** Encourage your loved ones to prepare for severe thunderstorms. Take CPR training so you can help if someone is hurt during severe weather.

ATSPA has recently updated our lightning safety resource to include safety tips for what to do in case of lightning. This rack card can be found under the resources tab of our [website](#).

For more information on severe storm safety, visit the National Weather Service [website](#).

WHAT IS HAPPENING AT ATSPA?

Can't miss opportunity.

If you missed our Educational Webinar Series this spring now is your chance to watch those webinars and earn Continuing Education Credits in nursing and prehospital. This opportunity is open until August 12 and FREE. Please share this opportunity with others.

You can [click here](#) to watch as many of the webinars as you wish. Once you've done that, use [this link](#) to fill out a survey on the webinars you watched. Each webinar is about 50-60 minutes.

For more information, please visit our website www.atspa.org.

Coming Soon!

ATSPA is currently putting together a schedule for lightning talks featuring 2020-21 Mini and Micro Grant awardees.

This presentation will allow our members to share their life saving projects with others in the violence and injury prevention field. This presentation will be open to anyone and FREE.

More information will be available on our website, atspa.org and in September's newsletter.

Also coming soon...

It's time to start thinking about mini and micro grant proposals. ATSPA is planning to accept applications in mid to late September. Final details are still being worked out but examples of items needed are available on our website, atspa.org.

This opportunity is open to institutional members ONLY. If your organization or institution is not currently a member, there is still time to join. Membership details can be found on the ATS website, amtrauma.org.

ATSPA JULY UPDATES

- July 1: Attended a July 4th Holiday Period DUI/BUI Press Event, hosted by the PA Fish & Boat Commission, PA State Police, and PennDOT, in Harrisburg. Also participated in the Safe Kids Worldwide monthly State Leaders Call.
- July 7: Supported Penn State Children's Health and Giant Food Stores with a child passenger seat check-up event, in Middletown. Also held a Bicycle Rodeo for the local chapter of the United Way of the Capital Region's "Early to School, Early to Succeed" program, in Newport.
- July 8: Attended a planning meeting, held by PennDOT, to discuss a Labor Day DUI Campaign Press Event.
- July 12: Watched webinars from Britax and Chicco, regarding technical updates on their child safety seats.
- July 12-16: Attended PrevCon, hosted by Safe Kids Worldwide.
- July 13-15: Attended three online media training workshops hosted by The Center for Injury Research and Policy at Nationwide Children's Hospital.
- July 26: Hosted a PA Trauma Systems Foundation meeting, for Injury Prevention Coordinators statewide.

Stay connected with us:



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