

TRAFFIC SAFETY TIP FOR OCTOBER

During the month of October, there is a national focus on teen driver safety. Motor vehicle crashes continue to be the leading cause of death for 15 to 20-year olds. Far too often, the leading causes of these crashes can be attributed to the lack of experience behind the wheel, distraction, and even impairment.

In Oregon, teen drivers with provisional licenses have limitations on their driving privileges. Until the driver is 18 years of age, no cell phone use is permitted at all. Once the driver turns 18, hands free talking is permitted, as it is for other drivers.

During the first six months, the teen driver cannot drive with a passenger under the age of 20 who is not a member of the immediate family. In addition, they cannot drive between midnight and 5:00 a.m. unless they are driving between home and work, between home and a school event for which there is no other transportation available, driving for employment purposes, or accompanied by a licensed driver who is at least 25 years of age.

During the second six months, teen drivers cannot drive with more than three passengers who are under the age of 20, that are not members of the immediate family. The driving restrictions between midnight and 5:00 a.m. still apply.

