

From the desk of Officer Marshall Morehead

Article 07-11-13

Half Way There

Summertime, summertime, we all love summertime! Right! Well... Yes! But summertime can mean a lot more than just time off from school or a trip to the mountains, beach or river. It's also one of the deadliest times of the year in our neighborhoods, on our streets and on our highways. The fact of the matter is, from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend is known as the 100 deadliest days of summer. There are many contributing factors and reasons why this is true. At the same time we find the temperature rising to almost unbearable levels we also find ourselves doing the most strenuous activities (cutting grass, clearing land, playing sports). It is important to remember to properly hydrate and listen to our bodies. When our bodies say slow down and take a break we need to do just that.

On the highways we find a different problem. With everyone taking trips and the volume of driver's increasing the number of accidents is bound to increase as well. We find this especially true with our younger less experienced drivers who may not fully internalize the dangers that come from speeding, reckless driving or not wearing a seatbelt.

Make sure your teen knows that wearing a seatbelt, driving the speed limit and following all other traffic laws are non-negotiable conditions of being given the privilege to drive. Any violation of these rules should result in that privilege being taken away.

Further, help your teen to understand the consequences of intoxicated driving. Make sure they know that it is never acceptable to get behind the wheel when they are under the influence or to ride in a vehicle with an intoxicated driver. Let them know that they can always call home for a ride without having to worry about getting in trouble.

We also know the dangers of texting or talking on the phone while driving. Make sure that all of our loved ones are aware of the dangers that are inherent with driving while distracted.

Whether it be behind the wheel, mowing your lawn, gearing up for a trip or just grilling in your back yard let's make sure we all have a safe and responsible summer together. Thank you again for your time and for helping us to better serve you.