

National Work Zone Awareness Week 2022 - April 11-15, 2022



National Work Zone Awareness Week 2022 is scheduled for April 11- 15. This year's theme is *Work Zones are a Sign to Slow Down*. **Wear orange on Wednesday (April 13) to provide a visible reminder and to show your support for the families who have lost loved ones in work zone crashes.**

The National Work Zone Awareness Week poster is available to download in a PDF format [here](#).

National Work Zone Awareness Week (NWZAW) has been successful in spreading awareness for work zone safety across the country because of participation from organizations and individuals just like you. NWZAW is a perfect time to look back at our safety history for an eye on how we can save lives. Work zones contribute to the overall national crash statistics that we all want to see decrease. Unfortunately, the rate of fatalities from all causes nationally has not substantially improved over the last ten years and continued to increase in 2020, including a 21% increase in work zone fatalities, involving persons on foot and bicyclists. Since 2015, the annual number of fatalities overall has exceeded 35,000, with millions more injured each year. [FHWA Work Zone Facts and Statistics](#)

Everyone plays a role in work zone safety.

[Learn more](#) on how you can participate and make your voice count on the importance of work zone safety.

Safety in Work Zones—how to drive safe, work safe, and save lives. To protect field workers and all road users, follow these tips for traveling safely through work zones.

- **Know Before You Go.** Before heading out, check for the latest traffic conditions along your route. With information on active work zones, you can change your trip, possibly avoiding work zones altogether.
- **Work Zone Exposure.** In the US, one work zone fatality occurs for every 4 billion vehicle-miles of travel¹ and for every \$112 million worth of roadway construction expenditures.

SAFETY TALK



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- **Stay Alert and Obey the Roadway.** Be aware of all activity occurring around you, including paying attention to other drivers and road users. Work zones change daily; pay attention so you can anticipate new traffic patterns. Remember, signs, cones, barrels, and flaggers are there to help maneuver you safely through the work zone.
- **Watch for Workers.** In 2019, 135 workers were killed in highway work zones.¹
- **Watch for Sudden Stops.** Work zone activity often leads to congestion, delays, and traffic queues. Be alert and watch for sudden stops. In 2019, nearly one quarter of all fatal work zone crashes involved rear-end collisions.
- **Slow Down.** Speeding can lead to crashes with other vehicles and with field workers. Make sure to obey posted work zone speed limits and keep a safe distance from the vehicle ahead of you. Use Caution Around Large Vehicles. Large vehicles have a slower reaction time, so refrain from making sudden lane changes in front of trucks or buses that are trying to slow down.
- **Keep Everyone Safe.** Be respectful of workers, fellow drivers, and all road users. We need everyone to work together to ensure we all stay safe.

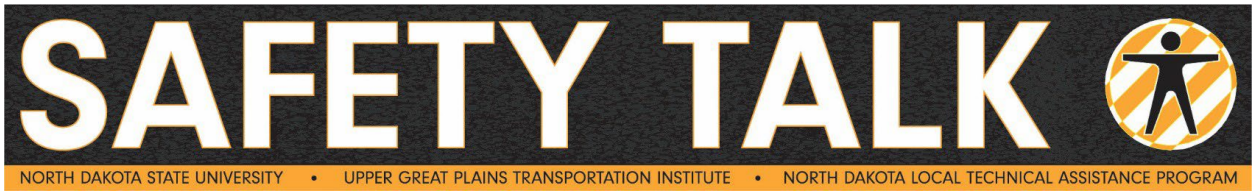
[National Work Zone Awareness Week - FHWA Work Zone \(dot.gov\)](https://www.fhwa.gov/workzoneawarenessweek)



Safety Talks are published by NDLTAP in cooperation with the National Local Technical Assistance Association and participating partner organizations.



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Safety Talk Sign-in Sheet Topic:

National Work Zone Awareness Week April 11-15. **WORK ZONES ARE A SIGN TO SLOW DOWN**

Agency: _____

Crew: _____

Supervisor/Talk Leader: _____

Date: _____

Print Name

Signature

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