



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Tuscarawas County Health Department

SAFE COMMUNITIES

OF TUSCARAWAS COUNTY

NEWSLETTER | JULY 2021



This month in Safe Communities...

Partner Spotlight:

**Alex McCarthy,
Director, Tuscarawas
County HS&EMA**

The Tuscarawas County Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency staff have been involved in the Safe Communities Coalition for three years now. We focus on helping the county plan for, respond to, and recover from the various hazards that exist here in Tuscarawas County. Of particular interest to us are transportation safety concerns as many of the hazmat incidents in our County involve the transport of hazardous materials. Our current staff members include Alex McCarthy (Director), McKenzie Learn (Deputy Director), Noah Porter (Planner), and Hope Bonos (Intern).

For more information on what they do and to sign up for emergency notifications please click [HERE](#).



Crash Fatality
Difference
from 2020 to
2021

-7*

* This comparison from Ohio State Highway Patrol shows whether Tuscarawas County crash rates are up or down since 2020.



With Independence Day on the horizon and a surplus of festive summer events, Safe Communities would like to remind everyone to stay safe this season and always plan ahead. Independence Day is long known for barbecues, fireworks, parades, and many other events for families and friends of all ages. Unfortunately, the July 4th holiday period is also historically known for increased motor vehicle crashes and fatalities. In Ohio alone, 515 people lost their lives during the July 4th holiday in 2019. 198 of these deaths, or 38% occurred in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes. If you plan to drink alcohol, plan ahead for a sober driver. Click to view a [Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over](#) video highlighting the importance of driving sober. The U.S. Dept. of Transportation states, "Although it's illegal to drive when impaired by alcohol, in 2019, one person was killed every 52 minutes in a drunk driving crash on our nation's roads" (2019).

The U.S. Department of Transportation suggest following these tips if you plan on drinking:

- Plan a safe way home in advance and never drive after drinking
- Always designate a sober driver or utilize local taxi services, call a family member or friend, or use public transportation
- Always wear your seat belt, it is your best defense against impaired drivers.
- Download NHTSA's *SaferRide* mobile app (free from the iTunes store and Google Play), to easily call a taxi or friend for a ride home. The app can also identify your location, if needed.

Click [HERE](#) to learn about blood alcohol concentrations and alcohol impairment from the USDOT.

July is National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month

In 2019, one motor vehicle was stolen every 43.8 seconds in the U.S., which means 721,885 vehicles came up missing in one year. The USDOT states that only 56.1% of these stolen vehicles were recovered. Take action! Our vehicles are often indispensable parts of our lives, used for work, family, and leisure. They are a costly, and important part of our every day routines. To prevent theft make sure to always remove the keys from the vehicle when you get out, close and lock all doors and windows when parking, park in well-lit areas and never leave valuables in your car (such as a purse, cell phone, watch, etc.) especially if it can be seen through your windows. Report all thefts to police and your insurance company within 24 hours.

Tuscarawas County Traffic Activity Statistics

This data is pulled from the [Ohio State Highway Patrol](#) and highlights activity from 1/1/2021 - 6/27/2021.

YEAR TO DATE	2021	2020
Enforcement Stops	2,466	1,361
Fatal crashes	2	7
Crashes investigated	624	508
OVI enforcement	123	79
Driving under suspension	156	110
Seat belt enforcement	578	370
Distracted driving violations	69	30



July 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Motorcycle Awareness March-Sept.		National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month	DSOGPO News Release SC @ Farmers Market	1 DSOGPO Material Distribution	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Fatal Crash Press Release	15 National Pet Fire Safety Day	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 8:30-SC on WBTC	27	28	29	30	31

For the most up to date news on the Safe Communities of Tuscarawas County and the Tuscarawas County Health Department, visit us at the following:

<https://www.facebook.com/tchdnow/>

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<http://www.tchdnow.org/safe-communities.html>