

National Work Zone Awareness Week in Kansas

April 17-21, 2023

National Work Zone Awareness Week educates the public of the need for safety in work zones. It brings to light the hazards and dangers of driving through work zones and how to avoid them.

Orange is the primary safety color in work zones. And Go Orange Day in Kansas is Wednesday, April 19 - everyone is encouraged to wear orange and show highway workers and everyone who works along the roadways how much their efforts are appreciated.



KDOT highway workers in Bonner Springs

A FEW KANSAS WORK ZONE FACTS

--About 85 to 90% of the time, the people injured in work zone crashes are motorists. In 2022 in Kansas, 13 people died in work zone crashes and 341 people were injured.

--Fines are double in all Kansas work zones, whether they are major construction projects or short-term maintenance projects. If you don't slow down, you will pay up.

--The top contributing circumstance of work zone crashes is inattention. Others include following too closely, driving too fast for conditions, improperly changing lanes and violating the right of way.

--There was an average of 3.1 work zone crashes every day in Kansas in 2022 (1,149 crashes). The good news – about 77 percent of the crashes were property damage only. The bad news - every crash has the possibility of affecting lives forever.

--Speeding up to 65 mph from 55 mph will only save you a minute on a six-mile trip.

--The Kansas Move Over Law requires motorists on four-lane highways to switch to the lane furthest from any stationary vehicle displaying flashing lights, if it is safe to do so. On two-lane highways, slow down and proceed with caution. Citations carry a \$195 fine plus court costs.

For more information, contact the KDOT Communications Division, 700 SW Harrison St., 2nd Floor West, Topeka, KS, 66603-3745, phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.



- Tips to follow in work zones -

- ♦ Follow traffic control and expect delays
- ♦ Pay attention/be alert, watch for workers
- ♦ Allow ample space between vehicles
- ♦ Change lanes when directed to do so

Visit KDOT's website, www.ksdot.gov