



The Police Report

Happy Anniversary!



In North Carolina and across America, millions of deaths and injuries are caused because people don't use safety belts and child passenger safety seats. Research shows that appeals to "do the right thing" don't work for the people who don't use belts. What gets them to buckle up is high visibility enforcement. That means checkpoints and traffic tickets for drivers not using belts.

North Carolina's "Click It or Ticket" program began in 1993 to increase seat belt and child safety use rates through stepped-up enforcement of the state's seat belt law. Nearly every law enforcement agency in the state participates in "Click It or Ticket," one of the most intensive law enforcement efforts of its kind.

North Carolina's "Click It or Ticket" program is so successful that it serves as a model for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). States throughout the country conduct "Click It or Ticket" campaigns, increasing awareness of seat belt safety daily.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of "Click It or Ticket." Law enforcement agencies all across the nation will be participating in the 2013 "Click It or Ticket" enforcement mobilization which begins May 20th and will run until June 2, 2013.

Facts about seat belt use

Seat belt use saves thousands of lives across America each year. In 2011 alone, seat belts saved an estimated 11,949

lives nationwide.

In fatal crashes during 2011, 77 percent of passenger vehicle occupants who were thrown from their vehicles were killed. However, only 1 percent of crash victims who were buckled up were totally ejected from their vehicles, compared to 31 percent of those who were unbelted.

Motorists are 75 percent less likely to be killed in a rollover crash if they are buckled up.

Click It or Ticket works. High-visibility enforcement is credited with increasing the national seat belt usage rate from 58 percent in 1994 to an estimated observed usage rate of 86 percent in 2012—an all-time high rate.

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Critical Incident Training

Training is an ongoing and vital part of law enforcement. We operate under the philosophy of "prepare for the worst and hope for the best." The Outer Banks is relatively quiet in terms of crime when compared to many parts of the country but we are not immune. In this day and time, our officers have to be prepared to handle almost any situation.

Southern Shores is a small community and does not provide much of a target for large scale incidents but that doesn't mean the possibility doesn't exist. In recent years, mass shootings have become all too commonplace particularly in school zones. As a result, law enforcement must prepare for a situation of that type just as they do for the



possibility of bank robberies, kidnappings or hostage situations.

Recently, the Southern Shores, Kitty Hawk and Duck police departments joined together for critical incident training at the Kitty Hawk Elementary School. These agencies, with the participation of the school administration, have developed a response plan in the event that a critical incident were to occur.

Sgt. Jon Slegel and SPO Jeremy Hemilright spearheaded

the training which involved practical scenarios in addition to classroom time. Training of this type will be a regular part of the in-service training program and may possibly include the fire department and EMS in the future.

While no one is ever sufficiently prepared to deal with an incident of this magnitude, we do our best to be as well trained and proactive as time will allow.



Beach Driving



The Outer Banks, with its spectacular natural beauty and unique environment, offers visitors opportunities to enjoy pleasures that are far from commonplace. Not all the places to visit are on well-paved roads. Here, you can drive your off-road vehicle along many miles of accessible beach as you search for that perfect fishing spot or explore our pristine beaches, as the waves lap at your tires. All this can be enjoyed, but there are a few regulations that must be followed. It is always a good idea to visit each town's website to get the latest information, several of them are listed below.

Corolla - Driving permitted after the paved road ends heading north through Corolla. Beach driving is also permitted from Oct 1st. - April 30th at designated beach accesses. Speed limit 25 mph unless otherwise marked.

Duck - Vehicles are NOT permitted on our beach between May 1 and September 30. Vehicles are permitted during the other months of the year using designated PRIVATE vehicular access points. There are no PUBLIC access points for vehicles within the Town. Driving on the dunes is prohibited at all times!

Southern Shores - No Driving permitted

Kitty Hawk - No Driving permitted

Kill Devil Hills - Driving permitted Oct. 1 thru April 30th (some areas may be closed to driving due to beach erosion and unsafe conditions). Speed limit 25 mph unless otherwise marked.

Nags Head - Oct. 1 thru April 30th a beach driving permit needed (\$25) Available at the Nags Head Town offices and many tackle shops. Speed limit 25 mph unless otherwise marked.

Hatteras Island to Ocracoke - Signs located at the various beach access ramps will state if driving is permitted

on that particular area of the beach (see below). Speed limit 25 mph unless otherwise marked.

For more information, contact the respective town's administrative office.

Rules and Regulations

Driving an off-road vehicle (ORV) on the beach can be fun and adventurous, but where beach driving is permitted, there are general rules to follow: The Standard speed limit is 25mph; enter and leave the beach only at designated, open ramps - never between or on the dunes; drive only on that portion of the beach which lies between the foot of the dunes and the ocean; proceed with caution and consideration for other beach users; open containers of alcohol are prohibited in vehicles; your vehicle must have a state road registration and valid license plate; the operator must have a current driver's license.

The use of off-road vehicles (ORV) on the beaches along Hatteras National Seashore is permitted year-round, with some limitations. No permit is currently required to drive on the National Park Service (NPS) beaches, but it is advisable to check with a ranger to understand NPS guidelines and assure that you are not entering a closed zone. Please note that driving in the Pea Island Refuge is strictly prohibited. For current information on open zones and guidelines, contact the National Park Service Headquarters, Cape Hatteras Group at **252.473.2111**, or visit any NPS visitor center facility located throughout the park.

Tips for Beach Driving

* When pulling into the access ramp you should decrease the air pressure in your tires to 20-25 pounds. In softer sand you may need to go lower. When you lower the air pressure it gives the tire a wider, softer foot print which causes the vehicle to ride higher on top of the sand instead of digging down

into it. This also helps to reduce the amount of strain on the engine since you're rolling on top of the sand and not plowing through it. Be sure to inflate your tires when returning to the roadway. Driving with underinflated tires can be dangerous.

* Drive at a slow, even pace. The maximum speed limit on all beaches is 25 MPH. Trying to take off too fast will cause loss of traction and bury you to the axle. If this happens, it's time to break out the jack and shovel.

* Try to stay in the ruts made by other vehicles unless they are deep enough to let you bottom out. The sand in these ruts is more compact than other sand.

* Avoid pea gravel beds (small stones usually orange in color.) These are the Outer Banks version of quick sand to vehicles.

* Avoid areas of the beach that may be impassable at times of high tide unless you plan to stay at the spot until the next low tide.

* Park above the high tide line if possible, but be cautious not to block other vehicles.

* In the event that you do lose traction, DO NOT spin your wheels to try to dig out of it. It only takes a couple of pumps on the gas to sink you down to your axle. The best solution is to decrease your tire pressure, shift to low range and back out of the rut you came in on before trying to proceed.

* Don't drive between parked vehicles and the shoreline (except in the area north of Corolla where the road to Carova Beach is on the beach itself and the traffic lane is between the ocean and any parked vehicles. The speed limit for this area is 25)

Items To Carry with You

- Tire Pressure Gauge
- Tow Strap or Rope (at least 14')

Beach Driving (continued)

- long with a load strength of 20,000 lbs.)
- Shovel
- Bumper Jack
- Board sufficient to support base of jack (otherwise the jack may sink in the sand)
- Flashlight

- First Aid Kit

courtesy of
www.outer-banks.nc.us



Law Enforcement History

1916

Anna Hart, a jail matron for the Hamilton County (OH) Sheriff's Office, becomes the first female law enforcement officer killed in the line of duty.



Happy Anniversary (continued)

In 2011, of the 21,253 passenger vehicle occupants who were killed in motor vehicle crashes nationwide, 52 percent were **NOT** wearing seat belts at the time of their fatal crashes.

From 2007-2011, 53 percent of the 121,507 passenger vehicle occupants killed in crashes were unrestrained.

Younger motorists—young men in particular—are most at risk. Among teens and young adults, ages 18-34, who were killed in fatal crashes in 2011, 64 percent were **NOT** buckled up at the time of the crash—the highest percentage of any age group. The number jumps to 66 percent when only men in this age group are included.

Pickup truck drivers and passengers are also at risk. In 2011, 65 percent of pickup truck occupants who were killed in traffic crashes were not buckled up at the time of the crashes, compared to 46 percent of passenger car occupants who were killed from not buckling up.

The Southern Shores Police Department is joining with other state and local law enforcement officers and highway safety advocates across the country to help save more lives by strongly enforcing seat belt laws around the clock, especially at night.

Nationally, 62 percent of the 10,135 passenger vehicle occupants who were killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes overnight (6 p.m. to 5:59 a.m.) in 2011 were not wearing their seat belts at the time of the fatal crash, compared to 43 percent during the daytime hours.

Motorists should buckle up every time they go out, both day and night. Law enforcement agencies across the country are prepared to ticket anyone not buckled up...no warnings and no excuses. *Click It or Ticket.*

While this year's *Click It or Ticket* enforcement mobilization runs from May 20 through June 2, motorists should know that officers are out enforcing seat belt laws year-round.

The national *Click It or Ticket* mobilization has increased seat belt use and saved many lives over the years, but there is still much more that can be done. High-visibility enforcement and encouraging loved ones to buckle up can turn thousands of lives lost into many more lives saved.

For more information go to:

<http://www.ncdot.gov/programs/GHSP/>



<http://www.nhtsa.gov/Driving+Safety/Occupant+Protection>





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***Integrity, Honor, Respect,
Professionalism***



The Southern Shores Police Department supports the core of Community Policing, and accepts its definition as both a philosophy and an organizational strategy that will allow the police and the community to work closely together. Together, we will work to establish and maintain mutual trust among all entities to improve the quality of life while enforcing the law.

We are committed to being a leading community-oriented department.

We are committed to being recognized as leaders in our profession by providing quality, customer focused, problem solving services in partnership with the community we serve.

We are committed to ensuring that police and the community share the responsibility for finding workable solutions to problems that detract from community safety and security.

We are committed to have open and honest communications both internally and externally.

We are committed to making sure that with each contact with the public, we treat each person with dignity and a sense of professionalism.

We are committed to excellence in all professional endeavors, maintaining high ethics, and striving to be the best in all we do.

Statistics YTD for 2013

Incidents

Aggravated Assault - 1
B&E - 8
Larceny - 12
Simple Assault - 3
Forgery/Fraud - 4
Damage to Property - 9
Drug Violations - 12
DWI - 1
ABC Violations - 3
Trespassing - 1
Other - 18
Total - 71

Arrests

Burglary - 1
Larceny - 1
Simple Assault - 3
Fraud - 2
Drug Violations - 1
DWI - 2
Other - 3
Total - 13

Accidents - 7

Citations

Expired Registration - 14
No Insurance - 2
NOL/DWLR - 20
Possess/Consume Alcohol - 2
Seat Belt - 5
Speeding - 8
Stop Sign/Red Light - 7
Total - 108

Warnings

Drivers License Vio. - 4
Seat Belt - 3
Failure to Yield - 1
Inspection Vio. - 1
Left of Center - 5
Registration Vio. - 12
Stop Sign/Signal - 26
Unsafe Movement - 9
Speeding - 18
Total - 127

Ordinance Violations

Dogs at Large - 1
Parking - 3
Noise - 1
Total - 5

Calls For Service

Business Checks - 815
Residence Checks - 788
Foot Patrol - 107
Traffic Stops - 269
Suspicious Condition - 67
Mutual Aid - 25
Alarms - 71
Direct Traffic - 115
Total - 3,261