



Town of Manlius Police Department SAFETY BULLETIN

APRIL 2016



National Distracted Driving Awareness Month

New York State will join in the nation-wide distracted driving enforcement campaign taking place April 8th-13th.

Distracted driving is any activity that could divert a person's attention away from the primary task of driving. Driver distractions can include the following: texting, using a cell phone, eating and drinking, talking to passengers, grooming, reading, using a navigation device, watching a video and adjusting the radio. In 2014 alone, 3,129 were killed in distracted driving crashes.

Because texting requires visual, manual, and cognitive attention

from the driver, it is by far the most dangerous distraction. Five seconds is the average time a driver's eyes are off the road. At a speed of 55mph, that's enough time to cover the length of a football field blindfolded. Seventy one percent of teen and young drivers say they have sent a text message while driving.

Town of Manlius police officers will be actively enforcing distracted driving violations during the month of April. Please drive responsibly so that you and your family can arrive safely. For more information on the national campaign, visit:

<http://www.nhtsa.gov/>



FIVE SECONDS IS THE AVERAGE TIME YOUR EYES ARE OFF THE ROAD WHILE TEXTING. WHEN DRIVING AT 55 MPH, THAT'S ENOUGH TIME TO COVER THE LENGTH OF A FOOTBALL FIELD.



Lock it up!

There are many solutions to keeping unwanted intruders off your property without breaking the bank. About 40 percent of annual burglaries in the US are not forced entries, meaning someone was able to walk, climb or crawl inside a house as if the key was left in the door. The following are tips to help protect your home and property:

1. Don't leave bicycles and other valuable items out in the yard for anyone to take. Empty boxes from televisions and other big ticket items advertise what you may have inside your home.
2. Trick burglars into thinking someone is home, there is a greater chance they won't attempt to break in.
3. Use dowels or metals bars to add extra security to sliding glass doors and windows.
4. Don't leave your spare key under a flower pot or rock for a burglar to find.
5. Secure your yard. Trim up overgrown trees and hedges where criminals can hide until the "coast is clear". Use motion lights to illuminate your property.
6. Know your neighbors. Close-nit neighborhoods are more likely to look after each other's property.
7. Prepare for vacation by letting your family and neighbors know to keep an eye on your residence. Call the Manlius Police and request house checks while you are out.
8. LOCK IT UP!!! Keep your doors and garages locked when you are away or at night when you are sleeping.



U DRIVE. U TEXT.



New York State Vehicle and Traffic laws prohibit drivers from using mobile telephones while driving (VTL 1225-c). Remember, this includes drivers holding a phone with the speaker phone on. Drivers are also prohibited from holding a portable electronic device and composing, sending, reading, accessing, browsing, transmitting, saving or retrieving electronic data such as e-mail, pictures, text messages, or webpages (VTL 1225-d). A violation of these traffic laws carry a fine up to \$200 (not including court fees) and five points on your driver's license for a first offense. For drivers with a probationary license, there is a mandatory 120 day driver license or permit suspension.



Save the date:

Saturday June 4th, 2016 10am-2pm

Town of Manlius Police Open House



To report an anonymous tip:



Call:
682-TMPD (8673)

E-mail:
tips@townofmanlius.org