

Amendments to the Highway Traffic Act; CELL PHONES BANNED WHILE DRIVING

The way it is...

As of July 15, 2010, Manitoba drivers will be pulled over and given a fine of almost \$200.00 if they are caught driving while using hand-held cell phones, "smart" phones and cell phones with walkie-talkie functions.

Facts and Information...

- You are four times more likely to get into a collision if you are **talking** on a cell phone.
- The chance of a collision is **23** times more likely if you are **texting** while driving!
- Driving while using a cell phone reduces your overall attention and concentration by **37%**.
- Cell phone **users** are far more likely to miss critical traffic signals such as brake lights, traffic lights, speed limits and stop signs than non-cell phone users.
- Drivers talking on cell phones drive significantly worse than drivers talking to passengers. The chance is higher that you will drift in and out of your lane, keep inconsistent distances between your car and other cars and miss exits / approaches. **Plus**, in most cases, a passenger can observe if there is a dangerous traffic situation and keep quiet. But someone calling you on your cell phone doesn't know.
- Talking on the cell phone is **not** the same as listening to a car radio. Drivers don't respond to their car radios!
- Drivers talking on cell phones are **twice as likely** as other drivers to have rear-end collisions.
- A recent study shows that drivers who text spend **nearly five seconds** looking at their cell phones at one time – enough time to cover more than the length of a football field, when driving under normal highway conditions!

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/seethesigns/facts.html>

Exceptions...

Certain devices are permitted while driving:

- Two-way radios
- FleetNet radios
- GPS systems
- CB and Family Band radios
- Walkie-talkies
- MP3 Players and iPods
- Mobile data terminals (text based dispatch devices)
- Collision avoidance systems
- In-vehicle diagnostic devices



****You may also use your existing cell phone, provided it is used in a hands-free manner. In case of an emergency where police, fire or ambulatory services are required, the use of cell phones while driving is permitted. Your best bet is to pull over before you make or take the call!****

What can you do???

Educate your employees on the new law! Create a policy for cell phone use in the workplace and ensure that it is followed consistently!

For a sample cell phone policy, please visit our website www.constructionsafety.ca

For more information and workplace resources, please visit <http://www.gov.mb.ca/drivers/index.html>

2nd ANNUAL

CSAM GOLF TOURNAMENT



WHEAT CITY
GOLF COURSE
3500 McDonald Ave,
Brandon



Wednesday,
August 18, 2010

-TEXAS SCRAMBLE- \$100 PLUS GST PER PERSON

Visit our website for more information and to download a registration form!

Training Schedule for the WESTMAN area:

July

Tuesday, July 13 – Principles of Safety Management
Thursday, July 15 – Simplified Safety
Tuesday, July 20 – Safety Auditor Training
Thursday, July 22 – WHMIS / Train-the-Trainer
Tuesday, July 27 and Wednesday, July 28
(2 day course) – Leadership for Safety Excellence

August

Tuesday, August 10 – Principles of Safety Management
Thursday, August 12 – Simplified Safety
Tuesday, August 17 – Safety Auditor Training
Tuesday, August 24 and Wednesday, August 25
(2 day course) – Leadership for Safety Excellence
Tuesday, August 31 – WHMIS / Train-the-Trainer

All courses run from 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Coffee, refreshments, lunch and training materials are provided.

Note: The Construction Safety Association of Manitoba has scheduled two **Flag Person Courses** on **July 5th**, 2010. These four-hour courses will begin at 8:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. The courses will be held at our head office – 290 Burnell Street, Winnipeg, MB.

Online registration available at www.constructionsafety.ca. Click on courses; training seminar schedule.

HAVE A SAFE MONTH!

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WESTMAN OFFICE 950-10th Street, Brandon MB R7A 6B5 P 204.728.3456 F 204.571.0678