

DISTRACTED DRIVING & WALKING

Over 40,000 lives were lost in 2017 as a result of motor vehicle accidents. This number has leveled off after the steepest two-year increase in the last 50 years.

The cost to society for the serious accidents in 2017 is estimated at **\$413.8 billion**. This has an affect on all of us: *drivers* and *non-drivers*. The recent staggering increases in these areas has many contributing factors, but one undeniable factor is the increase in technology, specifically cell phones.

We can all do our part and take responsibility for our driving:

- Practice defensive driving. Buckle up, designate a sober driver, or arrange for alternative transportation.
- Understand the dangers of drugged or drinking driving, including the impairment of prescription opioids. For more information on opioid crisis, visit StopEverydayKillers.org to understand the impacts of this crisis.
- Follow 3 Second Rule: staying at least three seconds behind any vehicle in front of the driver's vehicle. This is not absolute rule, but a guidance principle.
- Keep your vehicle maintenance up to date. Getting the oil changed regularly, monitoring tire treads, and getting your windshield wipers changed each year.
- Check your vehicle for safety recalls and fix them immediately. You can check for recalls here: CheckToProtect.org

- Pedestrians traffic incidents increase to over 6,000 deaths in 2016, highest total since the statistics were kept for over 40 years
- 75% of these accidents occur at night
- One third of all pedestrians who have died in these incidents were legally drunk (> .08 BAC) themselves!

DISTRACTED WALKING

Pedestrian related deaths of increased nearly 11% from 2015-2016.

For more information: www.ghsa.org

