



Ohio Turnpike and Highway Patrol Urge Travelers to Keep Roadway Safety Top of Mind over the Memorial Day Weekend

BEREA, Ohio (May 23, 2025) – The Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission and the Ohio State Highway Patrol are reminding all motorists to be self-aware of unsafe driving behaviors behind the wheel, such as speeding and distracted driving, especially when driving through construction work zones.

“This Memorial Day, we remember with gratitude the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice and thank all those who have served in the military and continue to serve to keep America free and safe,” said [Ferzan Ahmed](#), P.E., executive director of the turnpike commission.

“We encourage everyone to travel safely this Memorial Day weekend,” Ahmed added. “The top risky driving behaviors to avoid include speeding; driving distracted, impaired, and drowsy; and not wearing seatbelts.”

To accommodate an increase in traffic over the Memorial Day travel period, construction in work zones across the Ohio Turnpike will be limited from Friday (May 23) to Tuesday (May 27). Two lanes of traffic in both the eastbound and westbound directions will remain open in work zones.

“Speeding in work zones is a primary cause of crashes,” said [Chris Matta](#), P.E., chief engineer/deputy executive director of the turnpike commission. “When driving through work zones, maintain a safe following distance, be prepared to slow down or stop, obey the speed limit, avoid distractions, and pay attention to the signs.”

The days between Memorial Day and Labor Day – also known as the 100 Deadliest Days of Summer – are statistically the most dangerous for motor vehicle crashes on roadways nationwide.

“Establishing safe and responsible driving habits will go a long way in preventing crashes on roadways everywhere,” Matta added.

To promote roadway safety ahead of Memorial Day, the turnpike commission partnered with the OSHP and other organizations during its first Customer Appreciation Event of the year held today (May 23) at Commodore Perry Service Plaza (milepost 100 eastbound) in Clyde.

“As we welcome warmer weather, graduation celebrations, and family vacations, it’s essential for motorists to prioritize safety every time they get behind the wheel,” said OSHP Sgt. [Ryan Purpura](#). “By simply buckling up, avoiding distractions, designating a sober driver and following traffic laws, we can all help to make our roadways safer – especially as Memorial Day marks the beginning of the 100 Deadliest Days of Summer, when more than one-third of all fatal crashes occur each year.”

For the full schedule of the Ohio Turnpike’s Customer Appreciation Events, [click here](#).

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