## **SAFETY** NEWSLETTER

## SPRING DRIVING CHALLENGES

May 2020

Professional Drivers know first-hand how difficult winter driving is. Spring weather is a welcome change in seasons, but brings some unique challenges.

Let's examine some of those challenges to help keep your drivers' safety focus and awareness strong:

- Weather-Rain: Spring can bring storms and heavy rain. Hydroplaning is one of the more obvious concerns associated with driving safely in the spring. Visibility is another issue to be aware of during a rainstorm, both for you and the motoring public we share the roads with.
  - Slow down to give yourself and the family in the car more time and space when around your truck,
- Weather-Wind: Spring storms also bring high winds. Large profile vehicles of any size must be aware and prepared for high winds, especially crosswinds. Be prepared when coming out from protected areas and be ready for other drivers in high profile vehicles to not hold their lanes well.
  - Turn your lights on during rainstorms. Give the motoring public extra space and reduce your speed to increase your decision time and safety.

- **Pedestrians**: Spring weather brings people out to enjoy the season. Be aware of joggers, bicyclists and kids playing on or near the highways you travel.
  - Professional drivers should always be aware of pedestrians, but give extra attention to them during the spring.
- **Motorcycles**: Many people are taking up riding motorcycles as a hobby. A large percentage of these riders are new to the sport and don't have the experience to be a "defensive" rider.
  - The best way you can help motorcyclists ride safely is to give them a large safety zone.
- Construction Zones: Spring brings increased activity in road repairs. Professional Drivers should set the example in these work zones by slowing down, staying in the correct lane and being prepared for actions of "regular" drivers.
  - Please use extra caution in construction areas.

Driving safely requires full and complete attention. Don't allow the spring weather to become a distraction.



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