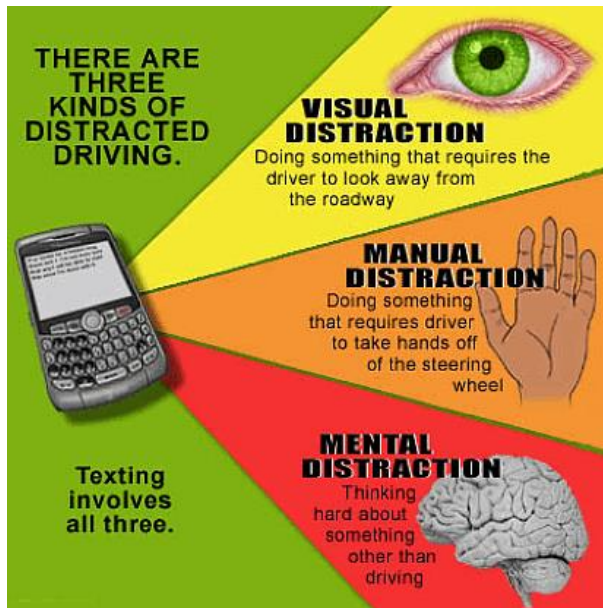


Team,

April is National Distracted Driving Month, so we would like to take a couple of minutes of your time to emphasize the importance of being aware and alert when driving. Ann Arbor is already a stressful town to drive in and with spring weather coming and even more construction projects starting up it is only going to get worse. From pedestrians walking down the middle of the road to cars going the wrong way down a one-way street or people running red lights when they are in a hurry, it is more important than ever to make sure our full attention is on our driving and not something else.



- Make sure you keep your eyes on the road and your surroundings, trying to change the radio station or looking for something in your vehicle is never a good idea.
- Keep your hands on the steering wheel while the vehicle is moving, there are more than enough stop lights and stop signs where you can take a second to have a drink or grab a quick snack. Remember, it's hands at 10 and 2, not 6 and latte.
- When you are behind the wheel focus solely on driving, letting our minds wander to other things while we are driving is dangerous for everyone out there.
- Put your phone down, no text or phone call is more important than someone's life.

To help put these numbers in perspective

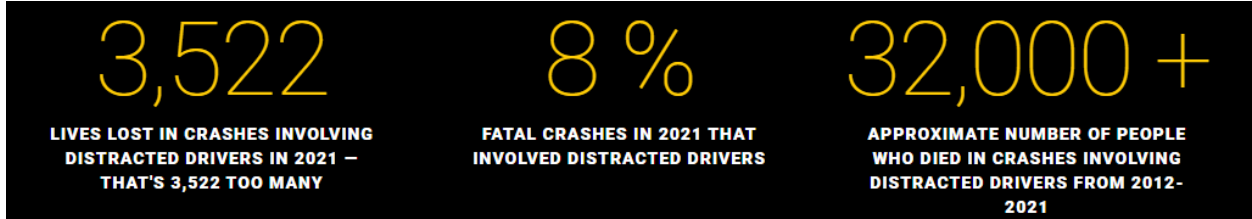
- Shark attacks kill about 10 people per year.
- 3,067 have died in airplane crashes in the last 10 years total.
- 647 people were killed in the U.S in 2022 from mass shootings.
- 63 have been killed by terrorist attacks in the U.S. since 9/11



Most people won't think twice about texting while driving or doing other things that may distract you but the fact is you are far more likely to be injured or killed by distracted driving than most other things that people worry about on a daily basis.



As part of National Distracted Driving Awareness month, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has adopted a U Drive, U Text, U pay program. State and local law enforcement officers will be out in higher numbers and looking for people who are driving while distracted. Tickets for distracted driving are \$100 for your first offence and \$200 for subsequent offences.



Mobile phone usage while driving is responsible for approximately 46% of accidents involving distracted driving. This includes activities such as looking at your GPS or playing mobile games as well as texting or talking on the phone while driving.

Here are a few tips to help you stay safe out on the roads.

- Leave your phone alone. If you need to make a call or respond to a text, wait until you can pull over somewhere and do it safely.
- Speak up. If you are riding in a car with someone who is texting and driving ask the driver to put the phone down.
- When you are driving, Just Drive. Even simple tasks such as eating/drinking or talking to a passenger can significantly slow reaction times.
- Drive defensively. Never assume that just because you are paying attention and driving safely that other people are.

**10%** of all drivers are using their cell phone right now



**90,378** crashes in 2012 involved driver distraction (including cell phone use)

NEARLY **1 in 4** crashes involves driver distraction

Texting takes a driver’s eyes **4.6 seconds** off the road for like driving a football field with eyes closed



Your health and safety should be the most important thing to you and not driving distracted is one of the simplest things you can do to avoid accidents and injury. Remember, Be Alert, Be Aware, Be Safe.

Thanks,  
Your A2 Safety Crew