

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
FAIRFIELD COUNTY

Dave Phalen, Sheriff



PRESS RELEASE

Fairfield County Sheriff's Office
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SAFE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – One Traffic Fatality in January is Not a Good Start to 2013

[Lancaster, Ohio, March 4, 2013] Fairfield County has shown a decrease in traffic fatalities over the last few months, but the first fatality of the year registered in January shows the concern that highway safety is never something to take for granted. The ever changing weather conditions should always be a consideration when traveling during the winter months, and planning ahead is the best defense to inclement weather. Watching speed limits and traveling safe speeds on rural roadways, curves, overpasses, and highway ramps is the recommendation of the Safe Communities of Fairfield County program.

“In a recent traffic safety meeting, I was reminded that when advocates talk about ‘speed safety,’ we are not just talking about following the speed limit,” noted Director Teresa C. Carper. “It is important to remember ‘safe speed’ when rounding curves or other obstacles noted by the yellow signs we see along the roadway. Those signs are strong recommendations for safe speeds for a particular area of the roadway.”

Often, “safe speed limits” are ignored since they are not the “legal” limit registered for a particular roadway. For example, 55 mph may be safe for a straight portion of a county road or highway, but a curve may require the driver to slow their speed to safely navigate the curve in a roadway.

It is also important to remember to “Buckle Up Every Trip, Every Time.” You are 50% more likely to survive a crash if you are buckled up at the time of that crash.

For more information on overall traffic safety tips, visit the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s website at www.nhtsa.gov.

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