

National Work Zone Awareness Week in Kansas

April 20-24, 2020

National Work Zone Awareness Week educates the public of the need for safety in work zones. It brings to light the hazards and dangers of driving through work zones and how to avoid them.

Numerous buildings and bridges across Kansas will be orange for the week. Orange is the primary safety color in work zones. And Go Orange Day in Kansas is Thursday, April 23 - everyone is encouraged to wear orange and



KDOT District One office in Topeka

show highway workers and everyone who works along the roadways how much their efforts are appreciated.

A FEW KANSAS WORK ZONE FACTS

--About 85 to 90 percent of the time, the people injured in work zone crashes are motorists. In Kansas in 2019, there were seven people killed in work zone crashes and 437 people were injured.

--Fines are double in all Kansas work zones, whether they are major construction projects or short-term maintenance projects. If you don't slow down, you will pay up.

--The top contributing circumstance of work zone crashes is inattention. Others include following too close, too fast for conditions, improper lane change, right of way violation.

--There was an average of 3.9 work zone crashes every day in Kansas last year (1,420 crashes). The good news – about 78 percent of the crashes were property damage only. The bad news - every crash has the possibility of affecting lives forever.

--Speeding up to 65 mph from 55 mph will only save you a minute on a six-mile trip.

--The Kansas Move Over Law requires motorists on four-lane highways to switch to the lane furthest from any stationary vehicle displaying flashing lights, if it is safe to do so. On two-lane highways, slow down and proceed with caution. Citations carry a \$195 fine plus court costs.

For more information, contact the KDOT Communications Division, 700 SW Harrison St., 2nd Fl West, Topeka, KS 66603-3754, phone 785-296-3585 (Voice)/Hearing Impaired – 711.

KDOT website
www.ksdot.org



- Tips to follow in work zones -

- ♦ Follow traffic control
- ♦ Pay attention to the road
- ♦ Stay alert/watch for workers
- ♦ Expect delays
- ♦ Allow ample space between vehicles
- ♦ Change lanes when directed to do so