



Chatham County Board of Commissioners

124 Bull Street, Savannah, GA 31401

Press Notice

For Immediate Release

April 3, 2019

Work Zones: Drive Like You Work Here

Support work zone safety during National Work Zone Awareness Week 2019

Savannah, Georgia. – Whether you work in an office or on nation’s roadways, everyone deserves to get home safely.

National Work Zone Awareness Week (NWZAW), in its 19th year, is a national public awareness campaign that spreads the message that we are all responsible for work zone safety. This year’s NWZAW is April 8-12, 2019, and this year’s theme is “Drive Like You Work Here”.

Recent statistics from the National Highway Safety Administration’s Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) show (from 2016 to 2017) a two percent increase in total work zone fatalities and an increase from 668 to 710 total work zone crashes. Those startling statistics further demonstrate the importance of spreading awareness of work zone safety and participating in NWZAW to spread the message that we all play a role in getting roadway workers home safely.

Additionally, there were a total of 158,000 work zone crashes in 2016, of which 42,000 were injury-involved crashes that resulted in 61,000 injuries. In Georgia, 7,276 injuries and 55 fatalities occurred in 2017 alone, underscoring the need for further awareness of how to drive safely in work zones.

On March 22nd, Chairman Scott, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, proclaimed April, 8th-12th, 2019 as Work Zone Awareness Week in Chatham County. We encourage all motorists to slow down to posted speed limits, eliminate distractions while driving, and be watchful for roadway workers and their equipment.

As part of NWZAW, residents are also encouraged to participate in Go Orange Day on April 10, a day where individuals are encouraged to wear orange as a visual reminder to others of work zones, and post photos of their Go Orange Day activities to further spread awareness of work zone safety. While fun, participation in Go Orange Day and NWZAW goes a long way in attracting much needed attention to work zone safety.

State departments of transportation, federal agencies, and other organizations will be participating in NWZAW and Go Orange Day, putting out PSAs (<http://www.dot.ga.gov/DS/SafetyOperation/Workzone>) about work zone safety, and hosting events to highlight the issue.

To learn more about NWZAW, visit nwzaw.org

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