

Be careful driving through construction zones

From the desk of inspector Tim Melanson

Driving safely through construction zones can help save your life and the lives of others.

Drivers must be alert to the movement of construction equipment, road workers and flaggers at construction sites. Signs, pavement markings, pylons and other vehicles in construction zones also require motorists' attention.

To prevent collisions in construction zones, drive slowly and pay attention. Being calm and courteous will ease frustration caused by seasonal construction delays.

? Do not speed. Slow down to the posted speed limits.

? Stay alert and give full attention to the roadway.

? Pay close attention to signs and work zone flaggers.

? Do not tailgate.

? Keep up with the traffic flow.

? Do not change lanes in work zones.

? Minimize distractions in vehicles. Avoid changing radio stations and using mobile phones in work zones.

? Expect the unexpected. Keep an eye on workers and their equipment.

? Be patient. Remember work zones are necessary to improve roads and make them safer.

? Drive to arrive alive.

? Treat people working on roads with respect, and be patient if traffic is delayed.

Changes to the Highway Traffic Act have resulted in doubled fines for speeding in a construction zone when workers are present. It is also an offence to disobey ?stop? or ?slow? signs displayed by a traffic-control person.