BECAUSE WE CARE





Teenage driving is a rite of passage for youngsters, for they have the major responsibility of safely navigating a motor vehicle. For the first time in your youngsters' lives, they are forced to demonstrate what they have learned with great reward, and at times great consequences.

The Caroline County Board of Education is committed to encouraging young people to embrace teenage challenges that they must conquer by safely meeting their ETA (*Estimated Time of Arrival*) and avoiding DOA (*Dead on Arrival*). This includes by all means, encouraging teenage drivers to stay focused on the road, exercising good defensive driving skills, and always remaining sober, well-rested, confident, and calm behind the wheel.

As a county-wide team of evaluators, we are dedicated to continually partnering with all stakeholders in the community to support our children, as they become adults who are safe drivers, good decision makers, and accountable citizens

prepared for an everchanging world.

Sincerely, Khalid N. Mumin, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools



DON'T
DRINK!!

<u>AND</u>
DON'T DRINK
AND DRIVE!!

STAY
SAFE AND
ALIVE!!



The spring season is an exciting time of boundless activity for high school students throughout Caroline. Among the most coveted events, the annual prom is an occasion of fancy clothes, shiny cars and celebration. Though a joyful time by any measure, alcohol and other illegal substances sometimes find their way into prom related activities.

What begins as an evening of excitement and anticipation can potentially end in tragedy and heartache. According to recent statistics, a car crash occurs in Caroline County every 22 hours, all too often leading to death or serious injury.

As you celebrate this wonderful time in your lives, we at the Caroline County Sheriff's Office encourage each of you to make good decisions that will lead to the continued success you so rightfully deserve. We wish you all the best as you create those high school memories that will last a lifetime.

Sincerely, Sheriff Randy Bounds





RULES OF THE ROAD

Your driver's license is a passport to mobility.

But this privilege comes with a great deal of responsibility.

Irresponsible driving can lead to senseless deaths, personal injury, and property damage. Drinking or using drugs and driving significantly increases chances of being involved in an accident.

It could even contribute to you or someone else losing their life.

IF YOU ARE UNDER 18 AND DRIVING.

YOU HAVE A PROVISIONAL LICENSE and you are subject to several conditions:

- You cannot drive with friends in your vehicle for at least the first six months that you hold your provisional license.
- You can only drive with family members, such as a parent, brother or sister or stepsibling.
- You may also not drive between the hours of midnight and 5 a.m. unless accompanied by a licensed driver who is at least 21 years old or while driving to or from a work, school, volunteer or athletic activity.

IF YOU VIOLATE THESE CONDITIONS, or others, such as committing a moving vio-

or others, such as committing a moving violation or a criminal offense, your provisional license could be suspended. Additionally, you must hold your provisional license for at least 18 consecutive months before you will be eligible for a full license. Even one moving violation means that the 18-month clock will restart on your provisional license.



Parents have to co-sign for a license application, and parents can file a written request to suspend the license, if necessary.

Did you know that 15 to 20 year-old drivers are the highest risk group for a fatal crash?

70% percent of fatalities in this age group involve the use of alcohol. Night driving statistics are even worse:

Young drivers average about 20 percent of their driving at night – yet they account for more than 50% of all nighttime crash fatalities!

Of that 50+ percent, 21% of those involved were intoxicated by alcohol

One Beer or Less and You Could Lose Your License

You don't have to be drunk to lose your driver's license! Maryland law states that no one under 21 may consume any alcohol. If a driver under age 21 has been drinking – even just one beer or less – and their blood alcohol concentration level is .02 or more, the driver has violated this restriction and the license may be suspended or revoked. The driver may also face a fine of up to \$500.



Drugs Can Cost You Your Car

Did you know that if you are driving a vehicle in which drugs are found, the vehicle can be seized and impounded? This law applies regardless of who brings the drugs into the vehicle. So even a passenger in your car who may be in possession of drugs can cost you your vehicle.

They Will Test You, Too

Signing a Maryland's driver's license or learner's permit application form enters you into an agreement. It says that if you are detained by a police officer who suspects you're driving or attempting to drive under the influence or intoxicated by alcohol an/or drugs, you agree to submit to a chemical test of your blood, breath or urine. This is called a Blood Alcohol Concentration, or BAC test.

The penalty for violating this agreement is an automatic 120-day license suspension. If you are detained a second time, refusal to take the BAC test will result in an automatic one-year suspension of your driving privileges.

BE SMART, BE SAFE, ENJOY YOUR PROM

Once you're involved in a crash or someone has been hurt or killed, it's too late to make another choice.

Don't break laws or abuse driving privileges.

Consequences of your choices will follow you the rest of your life