



BROOME COUNTY TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD NEWSLETTER

Broome County Health Department 225 Front St. / Binghamton, NY 13905

Lucas Davis, Traffic Safety Coordinator

Telephone: 607-778-2807 / Email: iddavis@co.broome.ny.us

Motorcycle Safety Awareness “ Share The Road”

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Each year, the incidence of motorcycle related injury and death is a reality that continues to plague our U.S. highways. According to research, motorcycle registrations in New York State (NYS) have increased by about 50% over the past decade. Locally, the number of Broome County motorcycle registrations is in the top third of all counties in NYS. With the increase in motorcyclists on our NYS and Broome County roadways, it has become increasingly important to promote safety awareness to the general driving public. The concept of “sharing the road” is a theme that has been adopted by traffic safety advocates worldwide to spread the message of overall highway, street and intersection safety for pedestrians, bicyclists and motorists of all types including motorcyclists. Most recent NYS Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) data reveals that in Broome County alone, there is an average of about 50 motorcycle crashes annually since 1999. In an effort to reach out to the local community, the Broome County Traffic Safety Board and Health Department are encouraging motorists to keep a watchful eye for motorcyclists this summer. To increase awareness and education, the Broome County Traffic Safety Board will be distributing flyers, bumper stickers and newsletters throughout the community in addition to highlighting a press story to supplement the New York State Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee’s statewide summer radio campaign targeting motorcycle safety.

Watch for Motorcyclists – Avoid Intersection Collisions!

Approximately 70% of motorcycle-vehicle crashes occur at intersections, NHTSA, 1999.

SOCIAL FACTORS...TIPS for MOTORISTS!

- **MOTORCYCLES ARE STILL AN IMPORTANT PART OF THE DRIVING POPULATION...** motorists should always be aware of their presence on our highways and be courteous to their travels.
- **KEEP MOTORCYCLISTS VISIBLE...** avoid turning left in front of them at intersections, which is a common contributor to collisions.
- **PAY ATTENTION...** to the motorcyclist's distance from your vehicle.
- **AVOID CROWDING...** when passing a motorcycle, motorists should be sure to pass them completely before returning to the right lane.



According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration the causes of many motorcycle operator crashes can be attributed to:

- **Lack of basic riding skills.**
- **Failure to appreciate the limitations of the motorcycle.**
- **Lack of specific braking and cornering skills.**

- **Failure to follow speed limit.**
- **Failure to appreciate the inherent operating characteristics.**
- **Failure to use defensive driving techniques.**

**LOCAL TRAFFIC SAFETY EVENTS!
BROOME COUNTY**

**NYS Rider Education Program
BROOME COUNTY Training Site**

- **Megan Dunham Memorial Golf Tournament**
August 12, 10 a.m. - Noon
Belden Hill Golf Course
Harpersville, NY
Contact: Joel Dunham, 237-3337
- **Chris Thater Races**
August 26 – 27
Recreation Park
Binghamton, NY
Contact: Jim May, 778-2056

**SOUTHERN TIER ACADEMY OF
RIDING**
in conjunction with **Southern Tier
Harley-Davidson:**

Contact/Registration:
Crystal Acquisto
Phone: 607.722.5641
Fax: 607.722.5313
E-mail: sthd3@sthd.com

For more information regarding motorcycle safety or the Traffic Safety Board contact: Lucas Davis, Traffic Safety Coordinator 778-2807.

TIPS FOR FIXING YOUR FLOOD DAMAGED VEHICLE, AAA 2006

"In addition to the obvious damage done to upholstery and carpeting, flood water is a corrosive and abrasive mixture of water and dirt that forces its way into every seam and crevice of an automobile," said John Milbrath, vice president of Automotive Services for Washington, D.C., AAA services. "If the car has been completely or partially submerged, it may be necessary to disassemble all mechanical parts for thorough cleaning and lubrication."

"Most vulnerable are the engine, transmission, steering and braking system," Milbrath said. AAA recommends that car owners contact their insurance company to determine the extent of coverage before seeking repairs.

Before attempting to start a flood-damaged car, a qualified technician should:



- Inspect all mechanical components, including the engine, transmission, steering system, axles, brake system and fuel system for water contamination.
- Drain flood water from contaminated mechanical systems and flush with clean water or a solvent, as appropriate.
- Drain and replace all contaminated fluids, such as oil, transmission fluid, brake fluid, power-steering fluid and antifreeze.



Barbara J. Fiala, Broome County Executive

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