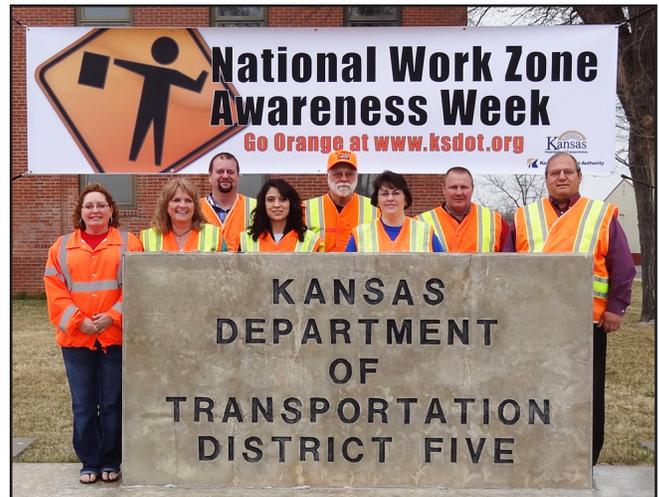


National Work Zone Awareness Week in Kansas

April 7-11, 2014

Go Orange is part of the Kansas Department of Transportation's National Work Zone Awareness campaign. Orange is the primary safety color used to identify highway workers and alert motorists of work zones. By "going orange" we are telling highway construction and maintenance workers how much their efforts are appreciated and helping to raise awareness of the need for safety in work zones. **Check out lots of photos, videos and other information – the link is on KDOT's website, www.ksdot.org, at the Go Orange link.**

A portion of the Visitor's Center in the Capitol, the Governor's Mansion, the Amelia Earhart Memorial Bridge, the Eisenhower State Office Building, the Kansas Contractors Association's office and all KDOT District offices in Topeka, Salina, Norton, Chanute, Hutchinson and Garden City **will be lit up in orange during the safety week!**



A FEW KANSAS WORK ZONE FACTS

--Nearly 90 percent of the people who are injured or killed in work zone crashes are motorists. Of the six people killed in work zone crashes in Kansas in 2013, all were motorists. In addition, most of the 379 people injured were also motorists.

--There was an average of three work zone crashes every day in Kansas last year (1,102 crashes). The good news – about 75 percent of the crashes were property damage only. The bad news - every crash has the possibility of affecting lives forever.

--The top contributing circumstances of work zone crashes were driver-related in 81 percent of all the accidents with the main cause being inattention. Other causes included failure to yield right of way, driving too fast for conditions, following too closely, and under the influence of alcohol.

--If you slow down from 65 mph to 55 mph for six miles, you will lose less than a minute of travel time.

--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 Kansas Move Over Law, which was passed in 2006, requires motorists traveling on four-lane highways to move into the left lane when passing by a road crew or emergency vehicle with flashing lights, if it is safe to do so. Tickets issued carry a \$195 fine plus court costs.

--Tips to follow in work zones

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



For more information, contact the KDOT Office of Public Affairs at 785-296-3585.