



Renfrew County Joint Transportation Consortium

Bus News

Fall 2012

Welcome to the fourth year of the RCJTC "Bus Stop News". This newsletter is intended to be a publication that will be distributed to all stakeholders to keep them informed of all ongoing or upcoming operational items.

This Year's Operational Startup

Overall, I believe most all would agree that September start up went very well. This was the first year where we did not initiate any new changes to the system i.e. staggered bells. We believe this has brought some stability back into the operation while we continually adapt to other changes. Thank you for your cooperation in making this a safe and effective start up.

Looks like another successful school year well on our way.

The Distracted Driver

Most of us become distracted at one point or another. The key is to ensure that you and your passengers are safe. This year a keynote presentation at the NAPT's annual conference was on the dangers of distracted driving. This included an emotional video which told the story of one Missouri's family tragedy but has come to be used as a valuable training tool for student transporters. (select to watch video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=scblzt8Nzdc&feature=youtu.be>). I would like to recommend to everyone to take a few minutes out of your day to view this video. Be prepared in that it talks to the driver who committed the tragedy and the family of Hunter Pitt, a 6-year old boy who was run over and subsequently killed by his own school bus driver on January 18, 2011 after getting off the bus at his home.

Winter Driving

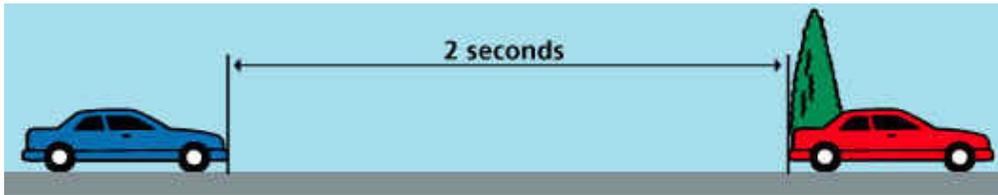
Don't forget to get your winter tires installed before the snow starts to fly. It's proven they are a definite safety advantage for winter driving, designated with the mountain snowflake symbol, on all wheel positions during the winter seasons. Results show winter tires stop shorter.



...the journey of a thousand miles begins with one step

Safety Reminder

Always check your following distance. Almost all rear end collisions can be prevented by maintaining a safe following distance from the vehicle in front of you.



The only way to accurately check your following distance is by using the **'time interval formula'** which works by picking a fixed landmark, like a sign, tree or some other stationary object, and counting seconds as the vehicle in front of you passes it. The number of seconds that you count is your time interval.

Under the best conditions, the minimum number of seconds needs to be 2, or more as conditions change or deteriorate.



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Don't drive distracted!



A white 1999 Ford F-250 pickup driven by Arlo North, 23, of Howard, collided with the back end of a 2006 bus from the Hanson School District. The crash happened at 7:52 a.m. about four miles east of the Alexandria corner on Highway 38.

The reporter interviewed North at the scene. He said he had glanced down for a cell phone call just prior to the crash.



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