

Turn headlights on for safety

The Kansas Turnpike Authority and Kansas Highway Patrol Troop G want to remind motorists to drive safely during rainstorm and to turn on headlights in adverse conditions.

Kansas law requires drivers to turn on their headlights when windshield wipers are in continuous use.

"It's a good practice to use your headlights and it's the law," said Captain John Walters, Troop G Commander. "Using your headlights in poor conditions allows you to see the road better, and it helps other drivers see you."

In 2006, House Bill 2748 amended K.S.A. 8-1703 to require headlights to be used during daylight hours in inclement weather and when other conditions exist.

According to the law, every vehicle must use headlights at all times when the following conditions exist:

Insufficient light or unfavorable atmospheric conditions, including smoke, fog and if persons and vehicles on the highway are not clearly discernible at a distance of 1,000 feet ahead; or

Windshield wipers are in continuous use as a result of rain, sleet, or snow.

Sign up for KTA Text Alerts at www.ksturnpike.com. This service is provided free of charge by the KTA to alert travelers to emergencies on the roadway. Check with your cell phone carrier for any charges specific to your plan.

NEWS

Website: www.ksturnpike.com

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Risky business:

Video focuses on teen driving habits

An educational video to help parents and teens understand the risks associated with teen driving and provide guidance to parents is now available.

The video was produced by Wichita State University and showcased interviews with parents and teens.

"We interviewed parents who lost children in car crashes, teens who survived crashes who could share their experiences with their peers, driver education instructors and members of law enforcement who could share their firsthand experiences with handling teen drivers and crashes," said Les Anderson, Associate Professor of Journalism at the Elliott School of Communication, Wichita State University. Anderson directed a team of faculty and students at WSU that produced the video and a companion brochure to help parents with teen driving guidelines, supported by the Center for the Study of Young Drivers, University of North Carolina.

"The video is being distributed to all parent and teen educational touchpoints in

Kansas, including law enforcement agencies, Kansas schools and driver education instructors," said James Hanni, Executive Vice President, AAA Kansas.



During interviews with parents and teens conducted by WSU in 2007, most parents told interviewers they had no materials to assist them and this was more common in rural areas. For those who had something, the most common source was

driver licensing offices, followed by insurance company and driver education schools or instructors, but all of these were uncommon. The video and companion brochure are expected to address this concern.

Copies of the video are available upon request by e-mail to boliva@aaa-allied-group.com. Copies of the companion brochure are available at DMV offices as well as online at www.aaa.com/teens.

Partners for this project include AAA Kansas Traffic Safety Fund, the Kansas Turnpike Authority, Kansas Department of Transportation, Sunflower Foundation and Kansas Health Foundation.

New credit card? Remember to update your information

Recently, many credit card companies in the Midwest provided new cards to their customers due to a potential compromise of information at a third-party billing location. If you were affected by this situation, you probably have received a new credit card which has a new number and expiration date.

It probably came in the mail and you began using it without any problems.

And then the KTA billed your K-TAG account to a credit card that no longer exists.

Last month, the KTA had an unusually

high number of voided credit card transactions, due in part to the scenario described above.

“This is a good time to remind everyone, not just the customers affected during this last incident, that if they receive a new credit card, they need to update their account information,” said K-TAG Customer Service Supervisor Marie Hanlon.

If you have your K-TAG account backed with a credit, please notify a customer service representative of any changes to your card.

Kansas Turnpike participates in ‘Sponsor-A-Highway’ program near Kansas City

In April, the Kansas Turnpike Authority partnered with Adopt-A-Highway Litter Removal Service of America, Inc. to bring the Sponsor-A-Highway program to the Turnpike in the Kansas City area.

The Sponsor-A-Highway program is designed to provide businesses the opportunity to financially sponsor the litter removal on designated highways. Sponsorships provide the funding for each mile of sponsored highway to be picked up. Sponsors are recognized with color signage, featuring the company name and logo. This provides marketing for the business, plac-

ing the company in front of thousands of potential customers on a daily basis.

Participating in the program gives businesses an opportunity to be recognized as an environmental supporter with civic pride and a sense of community responsibility. The program provides for cleaner highways and fewer safety hazards for the traveling public. It also allows the Kansas Turnpike Authority and the Kansas Department of Transportation, who is also participating with their highways, to use funds allocated for litter removal in other ways.

Adopt-A-Highway Litter

Removal Service of America is a national company with more than 20 years experience in facilitating the sponsorship of thousands of miles of highway in more than a dozen other states.

If your business would like to sponsor in the removal of litter from the Turnpike or one of the state’s highways in the Kansas City area, please contact Suzanne Cox at 800-831-0821 or visit their web site at www.adoptahighway.net.

