



The WisDOT Connector *Express*

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WisDOT grants can provide a safe ride home from summer events

Communities planning summer events that serve alcohol can apply for grants through WisDOT that aim to discourage drunk driving and support the "Zero in Wisconsin" highway safety initiative (www.zeroinwisconsin.org). Administered through WisDOT's Bureau of Transportation Safety, the grants can help provide transportation alternatives such as free taxi or van services for patrons who have been drinking. The funds can also be used to develop event marketing materials including t-shirts or posters that highlight the dangers of drunk driving. All municipalities are eligible to apply and applications will still be accepted over the next couple of weeks. More information on the grants and how to apply can be found on the WisDOT Web site at www.dot.wisconsin.gov/safety/summer-grant.htm.

Rising temps cause pavement to buckle

Along with making many people uncomfortable, hot summer weather is also causing problems for roadways. When dirt and debris fills pavement joints, the high temperatures can cause a roadway to expand and buckle. While keeping an eye out for buckled pavement, motorists are also being asked to watch for highway maintenance crews making repairs. Wisconsin's "Move Over" law requires motorists to shift lanes or slow down to provide a safety zone for emergency or maintenance vehicles and workers. More information on the Move Over law can be found at: www.dot.wisconsin.gov/safety/motorist/workzones/move-over.htm.

Happy anniversary to the Empire Builder

June marks the 80th anniversary of the Empire Builder passenger rail service between Chicago and Seattle. The Amtrak train crosses Wisconsin twice daily and was named after James J. Hill known as the "Empire Builder" for his ability in the late 1800's to create prosperous business where none previously existed. Last year, more than 96,000 passengers rode the Empire Builder to and from stations in Milwaukee, Columbus, Portage, Wisconsin Dells, Tomah and La Crosse.

Web site provides info on a vehicle's history

Consumers can now obtain a vehicle's title brand history, odometer data and other basic vehicle information to make better-informed purchasing decisions. WisDOT's Web site (www.dot.wisconsin.gov/safety/consumer/car/vehicle-history.htm) now provides a link to the new National Motor Vehicle Title Information System. The U.S. Justice Department set up the system that also helps prevent the sale of stolen vehicles across state lines.

Coming up

35th Annual Governor's Conference on Highway Safety, August 19 – 20, Appleton.
Joint Minnesota/Wisconsin Public Transit Conference, September 21 – 23, Duluth, MN,
<http://mpta-transit.org/events/conference/>.

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