

Connecticut Technology Transfer

Fall 2015



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Connecticut's Traffic Safety Community Comes Together to Save Lives

On October 7 and 8, 2015, representatives from the traffic safety community participated in a peer exchange hosted by the Connecticut Department of Transportation (CT DOT) at CCSU in New Britain. The focus of the exchange was Connecticut's Strategic Highway Safety Plan (SHSP) and the safety emphasis areas.



Please see SAFETY on page 3



Congratulations to the 2015 Fall Public Works Academy

Congratulations to everyone who completed the Fall session of our Public Works Academy!

Participants completed six weeks of rigorous training on topics including professionalism in public works, effective communication skills, chainsaw operation and storm clean up, safe operation of a snow plow, flagger certification and work zone safety.

Michael Anastasio
Andrew Bernard
David Bisi
Kevin Cegelka
Brian Conner
Matt Daly
Joe Doran
Tom French
Denis Giroux
Nickolas Izzo
Tom Janesky
David Lombard
James Mead
Keith Murphy
Matt O'Connor
Tom Peck
Keith Raymond
Tom Schweizer
Jason Scranton
Jose Sousa
Chris Squillante
Richard Swain
Ben Williamson

Town of Cheshire
Town of Colchester
Town of Manchester
City of Ansonia
Town of Ellington
Town of Watertown
Town of West Hartford
Town of Manchester
Town of Ellington
Town of Westport
City of Danbury
City of Ansonia
City of Ansonia
Town of Burlington
Town of Colchester
Town of Uncasville
Town of Burlington
Town of East Lyme
Town of Woodstock
City of Danbury
Town of West Hartford
Town of South Windsor
Town of Woodstock

For more photos of our Fall Public Works Academy participants hard at work, visit our Flickr page at: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/ctt2center/sets/72157659023054772>

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Phone: (860) 486-5400

Fax: (860) 486-5718

Web: www.t2center.uconn.edu

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Donna Shea

Program Director

shea@enr.uconn.edu

Mary McCarthy

Program Manager -
Educational Outreach
mary@enr.uconn.edu

Shelly Desjardin

Program Assistant

shelly@enr.uconn.edu

Lisa Knight

Program Assistant

l.knight@enr.uconn.edu

Regina Hackett

Program Assistant

hackett@enr.uconn.edu

Aldo Villani

Graphic Designer

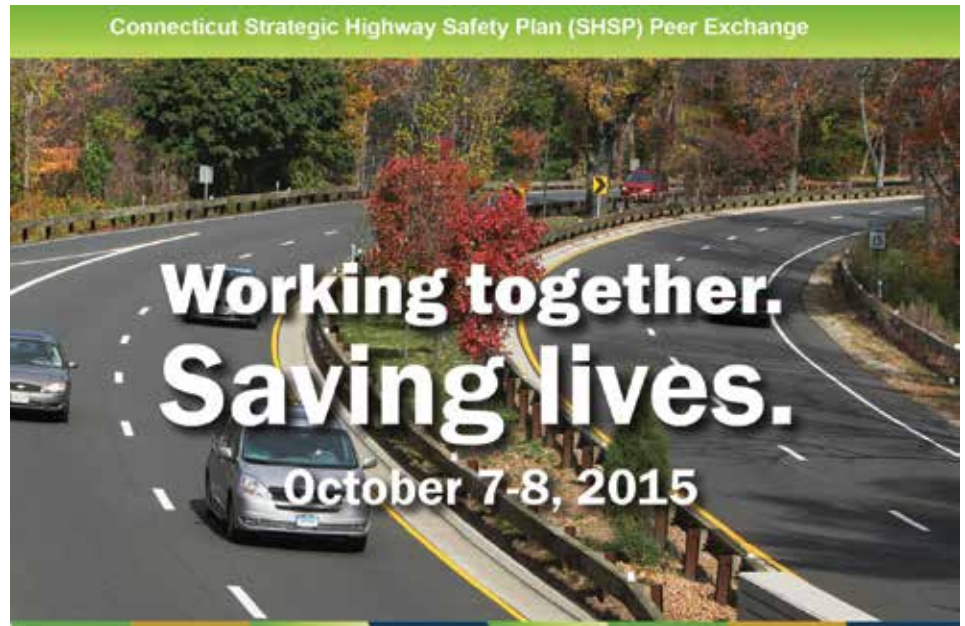
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Transportation
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Safety

Continued from page 1

The emphasis areas that were discussed include:

- Critical Roadway Locations (Intersections and Roadway Departure)
- Non-Motorized Road Users
- Driver Behavior (Distracted Driving, Speeding and Aggressive Driving, Substance Involved Driving and Unbelted Occupants)
- Young Drivers
- Motorcyclists
- Traffic Incident Management (TIM)



During the peer exchange participants heard from top officials about the current state of safety in Connecticut, including CT DOT Commissioner James Redeker. Representatives from Federal Transportation Agencies, including Amy Jackson-Grove, FHWA Connecticut Division Administrator, Michael Geraci, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) New England Regional



Administrator and Christopher Henry, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) shared a federal perspective on safety. A wonderful keynote speaker, Timothy Hollister, (<http://www.fromreidsdad.org/>) discussed thoughtful considerations for Teen Driver Safety.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the new CT Safety Listserv, please contact Mary McCarthy our Program Manager-Educational Outreach at: mary@engr.uconn.edu

Each of the emphasis area breakout discussions were very well attended and developed a series of SWOT (Strength, Weakness, Opportunity & Threats) analyses and strategies for ways to implement each of the emphasis areas.

The CTDOT looks forward to continuing this discussion with the CT safety community and the Technology Transfer Center will be starting a Traffic Safety Listserv to share information and useful resources.

During the peer exchange, the following video was shown that really illustrates the part all of us have in reducing fatalities and injuries. Please share!
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mb8lomjKTqs>

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Shop Safety: The use of “Hardwood” Blocks for Safety Props When Using Hydraulic Equipment

Our colleagues at the Montana LTAP Center received an inquiry from a safety coordinator in one of their counties. They were trying to find written guidelines on using “hardwood” blocks for safety props when working on dump truck beds and other hydraulic equipment. After the LTAP staff reviewed several OSHA websites, not only did OSHA NOT recommend using wooden blocks, there were several cases where the wooden blocks had either shattered apart from the weight load or had become dislodged from their position due to being bumped. In these cases, the victims were killed by being crushed by the weight of the truck bed as it fell on them. One such incident happened in Glasgow, Montana. (At this link: <http://www.msha.gov/fatals/metal/2014/final-reports/final-m14-17.asp>)

At this link, print this flyer and put it up in your shop. It describes how wooden blocks can slip and workers can be crushed: <http://www.worksafecenter.com/safety-resources/PDF/tutorial/municipality/Working%20Under%20Dump%20Beds.pdf>

In OSHA’s report, Hazards of Unintended Movement of Dump Truck Body Beds at this link: <https://www.osha.gov/dts/shib/shib091806.html>, they site several regulations shops need to put in their safety manuals:

29 CFR 1926.600(a)(3)(i)

Heavy machinery, equipment, or parts thereof, which are suspended or held aloft by use of slings, hoists, or jacks shall be substantially blocked or cribbed to prevent falling or shifting before employees are permitted to work under or between them. Bulldozer and scraper

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blades, end-loader buckets, dump bodies, and similar equipment, shall be either fully lowered or blocked when being repaired or when not in use. All controls shall be in a neutral position, with the motors stopped and brakes set, unless work being performed requires otherwise.

29 CFR 1926.601(b)(10)

Trucks with dump bodies shall be equipped with positive means of support, permanently attached, and capable of being locked in position to prevent accidental lowering of the body while maintenance or inspection work is being done.

(CFR stands for Code of Federal Regulations)

After reviewing these regulations and reviewing the materials sent, the Safety Coordinator decided to purchase two sets of Safety Wedges for two of their shops and one Dump-lock set for their other shop. The funding came out of their Safety budget.

Reprinted with permission from the Montana LTAP Center (Originally printed in the Montana LTAP MATTERS: Fall 2015)



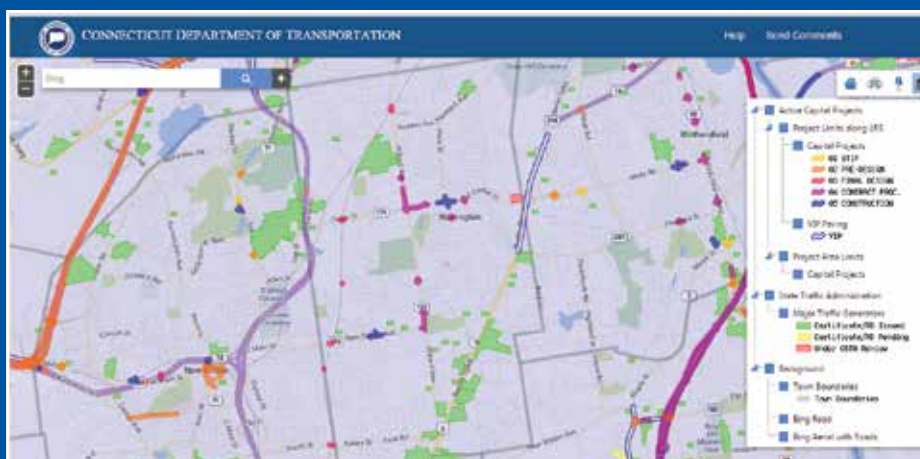
TIPS from Tony

*Anthony Lorenzetti, P.E.
Connecticut's Safety Circuit Rider*

Highlighting the New Mapping Tool Developed By CT OSTA

The Department of Transportation's Office of the State Traffic Administration (OSTA) has recently updated their website (www.ct.gov/dot/osta) to include a link to the new DOT-GIS Map that is available to the public. This update can be a valuable tool for municipalities to track CTDOT capital projects and the status of Major Traffic Generators in their communities. A "State Traffic Administration" layer has been added to the map, which contains polygon shapes identifying the location of Major Traffic Generators (MTGs) approved or currently under review by their office.

Clicking on the polygon will provide some basic details on the development such as OSTA Number assigned, Development Name, Certificate or Administrative Decision Number, and Issued Date. Further clicking on the link for "Advanced" will bring up the development's address (as indicated in our files), total approved gross floor area, total approved number of parking spaces, and general land use make up.



A State Traffic Administration layer has been added to the map, which contains polygon shapes identifying the location of Major Traffic Generators (MTGs) approved or currently under review by their office.

The map data is being updated as new requests are received and Administrative Decisions/Traffic Investigation Reports/Certificates are approved/issued.

For your reference, we have provided the following links below:

- Major Traffic Generators
- Certificate and Administrative Decision List
- DOT-GIS Map (make sure State Traffic Administration has been toggled on!)
- Map Instructions

Please note that this map itself is currently under development and may be down for updates periodically.

If you have any questions, please email OSTA at DOT.OSTA@ct.gov.



Featured T2 Instructor – Bill Eyberse

Bill Eyberse has been teaching for the T2 Center for almost 15 years. He currently teaches in our Public Works Academy (Winter Operations Module) and our Defensive Driving for Snow Plow Operators classes. He has also worked with us on our Roadway Safety 365 training.

Bill loved growing up in Franklin, CT where, as a child, he could look out his living room window to see Holstein cows and his bedroom window to see Morgan horses. He spent much of his childhood camping, fishing and running around the farms in the area.

Bill attended Norwich Technical High School and then graduated with his Associates Degree in Fire Science and Administration from Thames Valley Technical College (currently Three Rivers Technical College). He also earned his Certificate in Occupational Safety and Health from UCONN.

For 35 years, Bill has worked for the CT Department of Transportation, currently as a District 2 Maintenance Planner 3.

Bill has also been with the Yantic Fire Department for 39 years and an

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instructor in the Eastern Connecticut Fire School since 1985. I think Bill would say that the Fire Department has always been his first love.

Bill and his lovely wife Laurie are raising three children, Amanda, Jon and Jake. As he gets closer to retirement, he looks forward to spending more time with them and continuing his teaching as much as possible.

You can always tell that Bill really loves to teach and values the opportunity to get our learners excited about the topics. At the end of the day, he wants to make sure you are all going home safely to your families.

We thank Bill for his service to the T2 Center and look forward to working with him for many more years.

Bill's teaching topics include:

- Work Zone Safety
- Flagger Safety
- OSHA 10
- Defensive Driving for Snow Plow Operators
- Many other maintenance related topics



NEW! Work Zone Safety App!

The American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA) has just released the NEW Work Zone Safety Application Suite! Developed under the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Work Zone Safety Grant, this FREE app can help you:

- Quickly determine both minimum device spacing and minimum number of devices needed for merging, shifting, shoulder, or flagger operations
- Calculate the number of devices you need
- Customize your results to incorporate local standards
- Learn about and apply best practices for stationary lane closures and short duration operations
- Setup a temporary traffic control area.

Visit Google Play or iTunes to download your copy today!

<http://www.atssa.com/WorkZoneSafetyGrant/App>

2015 Connecticut Creative Solutions Award Winners

Congratulations to the winners of the 2015 Connecticut Creative Solutions award program.

The Creative Solutions program was developed by the Technology Transfer Center to recognize the initiative and innovative thinking of public agency transportation staff in the development of tools, equipment modifications, and processes that increase safety, reduce cost, improve efficiency, and improve the quality of transportation. The Connecticut winners will also be submitted for consideration in the National Build A Better Mousetrap award program.

Construction Trailer Town of Bloomfield

Problem Identified:

The Town saw inefficiencies in their preparation and cleanup of jobs. In many cases, multiple trips to the garage were required to collect forgotten tools and clean up took too long and tools were often misplaced at the end of the day.

Solution:

They came up with an idea to design a construction trailer. It is a landscape style trailer that holds all of their equipment in one spot. The ramp allows all of the wheeled equipment to be loaded and unloaded with ease; reducing risk to staff. It is also equipped with a 25 gallon water tank to supply the road saw, rock saw and demo saw and provides additional support for the mason truck and clean up. A toolbox mounted solar panel aids in keeping trailer safety strobe lights on at all times – even if not connected to the truck.



Backflow Preventer/ Water Meter Town of Monroe

Problem Identified:

The Town is required to meter the water they use for sweepers, tanker trucks and other high volume use. The water company also requires them to have a backflow preventer. Because it is used all the time, they store the meter inside so that it is easily accessible to the staff. It cannot be stored outside due to the expense of the equipment and concerns of theft.

Solution:

The department created a “wagon” that can be hand pulled or pushed by one person and carries the water meter and backflow preventer. The system can then be pulled to a fire hydrant and used to fill tanks.



Please see CREATIVE SOLUTIONS on page 8



Technology Transfer Center

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT
TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CENTER
270 MIDDLE TURNPIKE, UNIT 5202
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Creative Solutions

Continued from previous page

Honorable Mention!

Bench-Top Street Light Tester
Town of New Milford

Visit the online Creative Solutions Guide to see many other innovative solutions to every day issues.

http://www.t2center.uconn.edu/pdfs/CTCreativeSolutions_Award_Guide_15.pdf

