



Media Event

Motorcycle Safety Awareness Week – April 21 thru May 2

**Apollo Vocational Schools, 3325 Shawnee Road
Friday, April 25 at 11:00 a.m. in front of Apollo School**

Allen County traffic safety advocates are joining together to remind all drivers that with the arrival of warm weather they will be sharing the road with more and more motorcyclist. In Allen County during 2006, there were 41 motorcycle crashes involving 45 people – 1 person died; in 2007, there were 61 crashes involving 71 people -. last year, three people died in Allen County motorcycle crashes. Be alert!

Lima, Ohio (April 23, 2008) High gas prices, baby-boomers revisiting their youth, warm weather - whatever the reason more and more motorcycles are on the road. So, we all need to stay alert. Last year, in Allen, three motorcyclists died in crashes in which the driver of another vehicle failed to yield the right-of-way to the motorcyclist. Only one of those motorcyclists wore a helmet.

The American Motorcyclists Association and the Motorcycle Safety Foundation have launched efforts to raise awareness about motorcyclists during the month of May – Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month. They have provided five rules for staying safe – that is, five for motorcyclists and five for drivers.

Five Rules for Riders -

- **Get Trained and Licensed** - enroll in Motorcycle, Ohio!
- **Wear Protective Gear** - including a helmet!
- **Ride Unimpaired** - never drink or use other drugs before getting on your motorcycle!
- **Ride Within Your Limits** – stay within your personal limits, never riding faster or farther than your abilities can handle!
- **Be Life Long Learners** – return regularly for a refresher riding course!

Five Rules for Drivers -

- **Look Out for Motorcycles** – use your mirrors to see what’s around!
- **Don’t be Distracted** – hang up and drive. Put down the food, the pet, the personal grooming gear, the CD, and the reading materials – Save if for later!
- **Use Your Turn Signals** – signal your intentions. It’s the law!
- **Give Motorcycles Some Room** – don’t tailgate or drive too close, side-by-side!
- **Keep it in the Car** - Don’t throw trash and cigarettes out the window, and securely lash down cargo that can fall out on the road and be a deadly hazard.

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