



Fire District 4

FIRE & RESCUE

Serving North Spokane County

3219 E. Chattaroy Rd.
Chattaroy, WA 99003
509-467-4500
www.scf4.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: July 10, 2017
Contact: Chief Lonnie Rash, 467-4500

Summer driving safety tips from Fire District 4

Chattaroy, Wash. – Fire District 4 has seen an increased occurrence of motor vehicle accidents recently. There have been 17 responses in the past two weeks alone – more than one a day.

With two major Washington Interstate highways running through our district, District 4 responds to many vehicle accidents. For each wreck, at least one fire engine responds along with the ambulance, Washington State Patrol, and Spokane County Sheriff's Office.

The time is right to pass on some highway driving safety reminders to the public. Nothing can ruin your day like a car wreck – even if it includes minimal damage. Follow these tips to help you stay safe on the highway.

First, protect yourself by buckling up. Maintain a safe speed and keep your distance from other vehicles on the road. Keep your vehicle well maintained so you don't experience mechanical problems. Do not use your cell phone while driving.

Second, always drive defensively. This means maintaining a high level of situational awareness at all times. Check your mirrors frequently. Pay close attention at intersections on the highway. Watch for movement in the cars trying to enter or cross the highway. Be ready to take defensive maneuvers if someone pulls in front of you.

Remember to slow down and move over for responding emergency vehicles with lights and sirens. If you see flashing lights ahead of you on the highway, slow down. The responders on scene need to have a safe place to work. Cars that pass an accident scene at highway speed put everyone in danger.

Last, always obey all traffic laws – they exist to keep you safe. Don't take chances with your life or others on the highway. Fire District 4 would like to wish everyone a safe and healthy summer.

###

Spokane County Fire District 4 provides fire suppression and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) to 45,000 people over 330 square miles in north Spokane County, including the city of Deer Park. Volunteer and part-time firefighters respond to more than 3,100 emergency calls per year; 77 percent on average are for EMS. Fire District 4 is proud to operate under a balanced budget and has passed all financial and accountability audits by the state. Find Spokane County Fire District 4 on Facebook and Twitter @SpokaneCoFire4 or visit the web site at www.scf4.org.