The Stark County Safety Council will be collecting Toys for Tots at the December luncheon. Last year we were one of the top collection points in the county collecting over 3000 toys & we thank everyone for their efforts!

If you choose to participate, please bring in a new unwrapped toy to the December meeting. Also donation checks payable to “Toys for Tots” are accepted. Thank you!
Be An Example
By Stephen Gronow

One of the best things about being a part of Safety Council is that I have an opportunity to impact the lives in my community. All the agencies that I am apart of are committed to their goals; however, education appears to be everyone’s challenge. That’s why I’m going to use this opportunity to ask your help with one of the biggest problems in Stark County. That is preventing roadway fatalities.

Stark County and Ohio our historically ranked in the top ten concerning fatal crashes. In 2011, Ohio had 810 fatalities and 30 were from Stark County. The good news is that we can prevent the crashes before they happen. Unlike disease, old age or natural disaster, we can control what happens on our roadways. Eliminating traffic crashes is not simple, but it is an achievable task. It can be accomplished by working together.

Local statistics show high rates of fatalities. The primary causes are drinking and driving, driving distracted, disobeying laws and not wearing seat belts. It’s not an enlightening discovery, they are just the facts. However, the issue is trying to get through to our community and prevent these senseless deaths of our family, friends, and neighbors. This is my petition to you, be an example!

✦ Be an example, Don’t Drink and Drive. I can’t say anymore than that. Pick up the morning paper. It’s foolish to drink and get behind a wheel and drive. Be an example, don’t do it and speak up when you see someone else do it. Don’t be a part of the problem by ignoring it.

✦ Be an example, Don’t Drive Distracted. We all have driven distracted. Be an example. Distracted driving is operating a vehicle while something-anything-diverts your physical and mental attention. You owe it to the community and your family to safely control your vehicle. With all the distracted drivers out there, we need to pay attention to try to avoid countless others who are driving distracted. Just stand on a street corner and see what everyone is doing. It will scare the hell out of you.

✦ Be an example, Follow Traffic Laws. Laws are made to prevent accidents. Don’t speed. Don’t follow too closely. Don’t drive aggressively. The State Highway Patrol tells us that if we avoid these common violations, we could decrease fatalities where we live by 25%. Be an example, follow the law.

✦ Be an example, Wear Your Seat Belt. It takes two seconds. Make it a habit and it may just save your butt someday. You know the statistics. Seat belt use is the most effective way to save lives and reduce injuries in a crash. Seat belts reduce serious crash related injuries and deaths by about fifty percent. If you’re not on board by this time in your life, my grandpa would say “You’re as dumb as a bunch of rocks.” Be an example, put it on!

It all starts with us. We can make a difference. We can lead by example. You all are leaders and others respect you, be a good example. Do your small part and maybe we can change Stark County in a big way.

Stephen Gronow is the Maintenance & Safety Superintendent at the Stark County Engineer’s Office and a member of the SCSC Steering Committee.

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Upcoming December 13, 2012
The Power of Attitude
Come Join the SCSC as We Get “Marviniized” with motivational speaker Marvin Montgomery

And
SCSC Chair, Colleen Maurer will give a brief overview of 2012 and focus on plans and issues for 2013.

ROBIN’S CORNER

Q: Is First Aid / CPR Training a requirement of OSHA? What should I do if I cannot get anyone to volunteer to become trained in First Aid / CPR as a First Responder?

A: Per the OSHA standard: 1910.151(b)

In the absence of an infirmary, clinic, or hospital in near proximity to the workplace which is used for the treatment of all injured employees, a person or persons shall be adequately trained to render first aid.

OSHA goes on and defines near proximity as 3-4 minutes and then if you depend on an outside group to provide service, you will need to obtain documentation from them that they will provide it. This link is a letter of interpretation explaining the details:


This letter of interpretation link muddies the water even further, basically you should train, but can’t require them to use the skills.


Sometimes folks are afraid of the legal liability if they perform First Aid / CPR incorrectly. Typically, a conversation about the Good Samaritan law can help. If nothing else, the employer may need to train the supervisors.

1. Semi-Annual Reports are required to maintain your membership with the SCSC. Reports are due July 15th and January 15th each year.

2. Don’t forget to sign-in. If you do not sign the “sign-in sheet” your company will not receive credit for attending. This could hurt your company’s chances of receiving the BWC’s discount.

3. NOTE: July 1, 2012 begins a new 12 month period for the BWC’s rebate program. If your company is eligible, you must attend a minimum of 10 events, with your company’s CEO or a senior level manager attending one of these 10, and submit two semi-annual reports. See BWC website for complete rebate details.

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This newsletter is distributed monthly to keep you advised of developments in the area of OSHA law. Note: This should not be substituted for legal advice and should not be relied upon in a specific case.