



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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**NCDOT and Greensboro Police Department Partner to Promote Rail
Safety Awareness during Crossing Safety Blitz Held Today**

RALEIGH — The [N.C. Department of Transportation](http://www.ncdot.gov)'s rail safety group, BeRailSafe, partnered with the Greensboro Police Department to hold a crossing safety blitz today focused on the intersections near North Carolina A&T State University at Market and Gillespie streets, and S. Elm and McGee streets downtown.

Police officers from North Carolina A&T University and UNC-Greensboro helped Greensboro police officers and BeRailSafe hand out safety tips in English and Spanish to motorists as well as pedestrians. Approximately 2,100 safety cards were passed out to Greensboro residents between the two locations during the blitz.

Greensboro City Manager Jim Westmoreland supported the efforts to raise the awareness of motorists and pedestrians. "Events like NCDOT's BeRailSafe safety blitz create the opportunity to meet and engage residents one-on-one to reinforce rail safety messages," Westmoreland said. "The railways are an important part of our city and we're appreciative of our partners at NCDOT who are working hard to promote rail safety and keep our community safe."

"One train-related or motor vehicle death is one too many," said Paul Worley, NCDOT Rail Division Director. "We are happy to collaborate and use our resources with City of Greensboro officials to help make that number zero."

This year, there have been 16 incidents of trespassers on the railways in North Carolina, of which 10 resulted in fatalities. Three of these fatalities occurred in Guilford County, two of which were in Greensboro.

Rail Safety Tips

Motorists:

- [Always stop your vehicle when crossing gates are down or lights are flashing. Wait for the crossing gates to rise and lights to stop flashing. Look both ways,

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TRANSPORTATION BUILDING
1 SOUTH WILMINGTON STREET
RALEIGH NC

- listen and proceed with caution. For your safety, obey all signs and signals at railroad crossings.
- [Never stop your car on railroad tracks. When approaching an intersection at railroad tracks, keep your car behind the white lines.
 - [If your car stalls while crossing the tracks, get out immediately and call 911 or the emergency notification number located on the railroad signal equipment. If a train is coming – abandon your car! Proceed quickly toward the train at a 45 degree angle so that if the train strikes your car, you will be safe from flying debris.
 - [Be aware that trains may operate any time throughout the day and night in either direction.

Pedestrians:

- [Never walk or run on railroad tracks. Remember: “Tracks are for trains. Stay away and stay alive.”
- [Walking on or near railroad tracks is dangerous – and illegal. Trains in North Carolina operate up to 79 miles per hour and can take more than a mile to come to a complete stop. Also, tracks are on private property; you risk being cited for trespassing.
- [Do not cycle or operate all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) on railroad tracks or railroad rights of way.
- [Do not hunt, fish or bungee jump from railroad trestles. They are not designed to be sidewalks – there is only enough clearance for a train to pass.
- [Always look both ways before crossing railroad tracks and cross only in designated areas.
- [Do not cross tracks when gates are down.
- [Be aware that trains may operate any time throughout the day and night in either direction.
- [Do not attempt to hop on board railroad cars or locomotives at any time.

*****NCDOT*****