



Weekly Safety Topic

Week 51

Aggressive Driving

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) defines “aggressive driving” as the operation of a motor vehicle in a manner that endangers or is likely to endanger persons or property. It defines “road rage” as an assault with a motor vehicle or other dangerous weapon by the operator or passengers of another motor vehicle or an assault precipitated by an incident that occurred on a roadway.

Unlike road rage, aggressive driving is a traffic offense. The aggressive driver disregards other drivers and does unlawful things, such as:

- Speeding
- Improper or excessive lane changing
- Failure to signal
- Illegally passing

What Makes a Driver “Aggressive”? Stress, fatigue, emotional problems, alcohol and drug use and general disregard for other drivers all tend to make for an aggressive driver. None of these issues justify it.

As a driver, you must focus on driving safely, which means focusing on the task and recognizing the potential consequences of driving aggressively.

A Down To Earth driver should:

1. **Understand you are responsible for your passengers in the vehicle with you.**
 2. **ALWAYS stay within the speed limit, and adjust your driving speed for road conditions**
- Not be distracted by talking on your cell phone (even hands-free devices), eating, drinking, etc.
 - Make sure you are rested and awake before to getting behind the wheel of a vehicle
 - Know your route in advance to avoid confusion and to provide enough time to avoid being in a hurry.
 - **Stay within the speed limit and adjust your driving speed for road conditions.**
 - **Signal your intentions far enough in advance to make other drivers aware of your plans.**

Safety is everyone’s responsibility.

How you focus on safety everyday can affect not just you but your family and friends.



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If you SEE something unsafe, Do something about it.