

Delaware General Health District

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A Safe Communities Grantee of the Ohio Department of Public Safety

NEWS RELEASE

DELAWARE COUNTY SAFE COMMUNITIES TRAFFIC FATALITIES UPDATE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DELAWARE, Oh., May 22, 2009 – The Delaware County Safe Communities Program reports that there was one traffic fatality in April in Delaware County. The victim crossed the center line of U.S. 23 and collided head-on with an oncoming car. The other driver was hospitalized.

Ohio safety leaders hope to reduce traffic fatalities to less than 1,100 a year by 2010, and ultimately to zero. In 2007, there were 1,257 traffic deaths in Ohio, and all crashes cost more than \$8 billion.

From 2005 through 2007, Delaware County saw 11,759 crashes that took 52 lives and seriously injured 372 others. A breakdown shows:

- Significant numbers of crashes involved young drivers, unbelted drivers and/or passengers, drunken driving, and high speeds.
- Collisions with fixed objects including ditches, trees, and guardrails caused the most deaths.
- Crashes at intersections caused the most serious injuries.

The Delaware County Safe Communities Program, a Delaware General Health District program, was developed by the Ohio Department of Public Safety. The Safe Communities Program is a proud partner in the current “Click It or Ticket” seat belt usage campaign. For more safe driving tips, visit the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at <http://nhtsa.gov>.