



Safety & Environmental Newsletter



September 2017 Issue – 74th Edition

Drive Safely Work Week October 2 – 6, 2017



Driving is a basic activity of everyday life for most Americans. You drive to work, to school, to the grocery store — sometimes all in one day. In fact, Americans are driving more miles now than ever before. In 2015,

Americans drove **3.15 trillion miles**, equivalent to 337 round trips from Earth to Pluto.

With more drivers, come more accidents. This past year may have been the deadliest on the nation's roads in nearly a decade. The National Safety Council estimates that as many as **40,000 people died** in motor vehicle crashes in 2016 — a 6 percent increase from the year prior. For something the average person does so often, shouldn't we focus more energy on doing it safely?

Now is the time to raise our awareness for safe driving. **Oct. 2-6 is Drive Safely Work Week**, sponsored by the Network of Employers for Traffic Safety (NETS). NETS is a road safety organization focused on preventing traffic incidents on and off the job site.

The three main causes of driving fatalities are alcohol, speeding and **distracted driving**. There always have been relatively consistent laws on impaired driving and speed limits, but with the constant evolution of technology, drivers tend to overlook the distracted driving regulations.

Talking on the phone, applying makeup and looking up directions are all forms of **distracted driving**. Each day in the United States, **nine people are killed in crashes** that reportedly involve a distracted driver.

Here are **five steps to follow to avoid distractions** during your commute:

- 1. Avoid temptation** — Turn off your phone or put it in the glove box or center console to avoid talking or texting. If you need to make an emergency call, it's best to pull over safely before doing so.
Stay alert — Change your everyday routes so your mind has to concentrate on where you're heading. Make a full mirror sweep with your eyes every 5-6 seconds to monitor your surroundings and stay vigilant.
- 2. Have a plan** — Know where you're going and how to get there before you get behind the wheel. Use navigation tools with audio and set them up before leaving for your destination.
- 3. Avoid multitasking**— Eating and drinking or applying makeup in the car may seem like a time-saver, but it's not worth the risk. Take the time to get everything settled before you start driving.
- 4. Help others** — Never text someone who you know is driving. When you call someone, always ask if they're driving. If they are, assure them you will call them back another time when they are not on the road.

Participating in Drive Safely Work Week is just the beginning to making safe driving an everyday practice for life. Whether you are driving on public roads or through a NASA center, it's pertinent to obey all traffic laws to avoid causing an accident.

Remember, there are millions of drivers sharing the road with you at any given time. Just as you're relying on them to be safe drivers, they are trusting others on the road too. Be the one they can count on.

View the NASA Safety Center's [Transportation Safety page](#) for more information on driving safely and transportation incidents at NASA.



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NASA Releases NMIS Quick Entry and Hazard Reporting App

The NASA Safety Center (NSC) has released the NASA Mishap Information System (NMIS) Quick Entry Mishap and Hazard Reporting app to allow NASA employees to report incidents from anywhere at any time. The app became available on August 11 for Apple iOS and Android mobile devices.



NMIS is a custom-developed web repository for agency mishap, close call and hazard records. The NMIS Quick Entry Mishap and Hazard Reporting app mimics the functions of NMIS' desktop quick report feature, but it allows any NASA employee to report incidents via a mobile device with photographs.

“The app will allow employees a way to report in the field a hazard or mishap event in NMIS and to document the condition through the ability to capture a photograph from a mobile device,” Mishap Investigation Support Office Manager Ken O'Connor explained. “NASA has a strong reporting culture, and the app helps to strengthen that culture by providing employees with an additional tool.”

When using the app users are prompted to record when the event occurred, where it occurred and what happened. They also have the option of taking a photo in the app or uploading one from their phone's photo gallery. To respect privacy and to accurately depict the in-

cident, photos should not include the injured person and should not be staged.

“Many well-known safety experts stress that incidents and hazards must be easy to report in order to achieve a strong Safety Culture,” NSC System Safety Engineer Steve Lilley said. “What could be easier than pulling out your smartphone? And the built-in photo capability of most smartphones allows the user to send a real-time record of any hazard at the scene.”

Improve the safety of your center and the entire agency by downloading the app now through the [NASA app store](#). For help downloading the app, watch the [NASA App Store Tutorial](#).

To see more information on NMIS and the NMIS Quick Entry Mishap and Hazard Reporting app, visit the [NMIS homepage](#) and watch the [NMIS Quick Entry Mishap and Hazard Reporting mobile app video](#). The NMIS homepage also includes a [User Guide](#), [FAQ section](#) and other helpful resources.





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2018 Environmental Management System (EMS) High Priorities

Have you ever wondered how Wallops arrives at the Environmental Management System (EMS) High Priorities each year? Every August all environmental programs are scored based on their risk to safety and health, natural and cultural resources, legal and regulatory, mission and institution capability, reputation and stakeholder interest, cost, and mission schedule as well as the probability that the impact or benefit will occur during the upcoming fiscal year. After review by a project team of representatives from various NASA, contractor, and tenant organizations, WFF Senior management approved the 2018 High Priorities on September 14, 2017. The 2018 High Priorities are:



Natural Resources
Environmental Planning
Air Quality
Sustainability
Site Restoration



Environmental Management System Policy

Goddard's EMS policy is found in GPD 8500.1. The policy can be easily restated by remembering to consider the environment in your daily job.



Goddard Policy Directive (GPD)

DIRECTIVE NO.	GPD 8500.1D
EFFECTIVE DATE:	May 25, 2017
EXPIRATION DATE:	May 25, 2022

Responsible Office: 250/Medical and Environmental Management Division (MEMD)
Title: Environmental Policy and Program Management

1. POLICY

The Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC) missions expand knowledge of the Earth and its environment, the solar system, and the universe. To maintain our nation's leadership in this endeavor, GSFC commits to conducting missions in a manner that promotes environmental stewardship. As an integral part of all mission planning and implementation, GSFC's environmental policy is to:

- a. Comply with all applicable Federal, state, and local laws and regulations, Executive Orders, NASA policies, and other requirements;
- b. Prevent pollution, conserve natural resources, and consider the environmental impacts of Center actions during planning;
- c. Implement pragmatic and cost effective solutions to environmental challenges;
- d. Communicate with the GSFC community, our partners, and the public;
- e. Continue to improve our environmental performance by:
 - (1) Promoting awareness through education and training;
 - (2) Integrating environmentally sustainable best management practices into our daily work activities;
 - (3) Exploring advances in environmental technology; and
 - (4) Providing a framework for setting goals, objectives and targets through our Environmental Management System (EMS).

These commitments demonstrate GSFC's environmental stewardship in our community.

Your commitment, to use recycling containers, turn off lights, keep hazardous waste containers closed, and report spills, maintains and improves the Wallops ecosystem.

The current high priorities and the policy are two items each employee should be able to describe in an audit.