

# SAFETY THEME

LOCAL GOVERNMENT RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC., – A Service Organization of the ASSOCIATION COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GEORGIA and the GEORGIA MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION

The Safety Theme program is designed to help you get an important safety message across to all employees in a simple-to-use format that can be completed each month.

## Monthly Poster Theme

Make copies and post them wherever you will get the most impact.

**Happy  
Thanksgiving  
to you & yours!  
Stay Safe!**



### Safety Theme Article

The article expands on the poster message for the month. Make copies and hand them out to each meeting participant.

### In This Issue:

Participant Sign-In Sheets: Use the sign-in sheet to document your safety training.

#### Suggested Agenda for the Monthly Safety Meeting:

- > Assemble the participants.
- > Hand out copies of the article and pass around the sign-in sheet.
- > Read the Safety Theme aloud.
- > Discuss aspects of the theme relevant to the department, with examples. Ask for ideas and encourage participation.





**LGRMS**  
**RISK CONTROL**  
**ACCG | GMA**

November 2019

# **SAFETY THEME**

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## **R U A Defensive Driver?**

- **Recognize the Hazard**
- **Understand the Defense**
- **Act Correctly in Time**



# RUA: Are You a Defensive Driver?

RUA stands for Recognize the Hazard, Understand the Defense, and Act Correctly in Time. This is the core tenant in the National Safety Council's Defensive Driving Program.

LGRMS has provided defensive driving training through the National Safety Council's Defensive Driving Course for over two decades. In that time, we have provided this training to thousands of local government employees. It is a very effective course.

We are pleased to announce that, starting this month, we will be providing this training using the newly updated Tenth Edition. This edition is interactive and fast-paced, and continues to provide the knowledge and safe driving techniques that you can apply to prevent collisions and traffic violations.

Did you know that today over one hundred people will die on our nation's roads? With this program, the goal of GMA, ACCG, and LGRMS is to eliminate traffic deaths entirely, reduce liability, and prevent injuries. You can do your part by applying the techniques discussed in the course and safely sharing the road with drivers and non-drivers alike.

To schedule a defensive driving course, contact your LGRMS loss control field representative.

## Defensive Driving Tip: Deadly Choice, Speeding

From the NSC 10th Edition DDC manual

Speeding continues to be at the top for driving behaviors that contribute to collisions leading to deaths, injuries, and property damage.

- Speeding is a factor in more than one-quarter of all traffic fatalities.
- Excessive speed reduces the amount of time and space the driver has to react in a dangerous situation to avoid a crash.



- Speeding increases vehicle stopping distance.
- Speeding reduces the ability of road safety structures such as guardrails, crash cushions, median dividers, and barriers to protect vehicle occupants in a crash.

Driving too slowly can also be a factor in collisions. Driving below the posted minimum speed or traveling too slowly in the passing lane causes ripples in the traffic flow. Frustrated drivers often use risky moves to overtake or get around slow vehicles. *If you must drive slowly, use less-traveled roads and avoid rush hour traffic.*

## Responsible Choices

Determine the safest speed by knowing the speed limit and adjusting your speed based on the conditions.

Use time management while driving. Know where you're going and how much time it takes to get there.

Monitor your speed regularly. Slow down in work zones and school zones.

If someone is tailgating you, slow down a bit and let the vehicle pass.





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***This Issue:***

# ***Defensive Driving***

