



FYI: Facts About Teen Driving

The Problems:

- ❖ Teen drivers have the highest death rate from crashes than any other age group
- ❖ Motor vehicle-related crashes are the leading cause of death in youth from 16 – 20 years old
- ❖ Young men have twice the risk of dying in a car crash as young women
- ❖ New young drivers lack the experience to handle the complex tasks of driving
- ❖ A teen is four times more likely to be killed while driving at night than during the day
- ❖ Crash risk increases with each additional passenger, and the risk is even higher when passengers are male
- ❖ Teens have the lowest seat belt use rate of any age group
- ❖ Alcohol use is involved in a third of fatal teen crashes

The Solutions:

- ❖ **Practice, practice, practice**--teens need extensive, supervised practice
- ❖ You as parents control the keys: Driving is a *Privilege*, not a *Right*
- ❖ Restrict passengers: Allow no more than one passenger—ideally NONE
- ❖ Restrict night-time driving
- ❖ Enforce seat belt use
- ❖ Reduce distractions: no cell phone use while driving, even with hand-held.
- ❖ Forbid alcohol use
- ❖ Know the laws- As of 9/03, New York State requires:
 - Supervising drivers must be: 21 years of age or older, parent, guardian, driving instructor, person in “loco parentis”
 - Six months practice and at least 20 hours experience before eligibility for a junior license
 - All passengers of a teen driver to be buckled up
 - No more than two passengers

8//07 Nassau Pediatric Society ~ Community Parent Center ~ Allstate Foundation



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