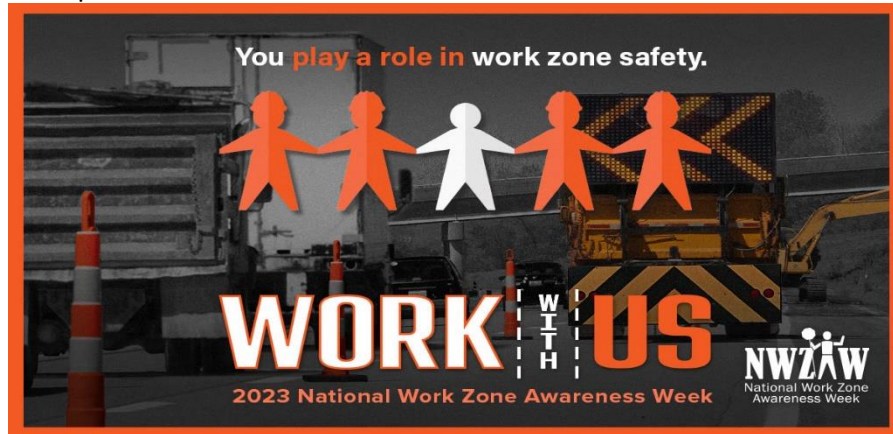




## National Work Zone Awareness Week April 17-21

The Lucas County Engineer's Office joins other transportation departments across the state and nation in raising awareness for safety during National Work Zone Awareness Week. This year's theme is **"You play a role in work zone safety. Work with us."** The national event is being hosted by the Missouri Department of Transportation.



Work zone safety and the safety of our workers is our top priority. According to the Ohio State Highway Patrol, there were **4,628** work zone-related crashes in Ohio last year, 21 were deadly resulting in **23 deaths**, and **85 involved serious injuries**. In 2021, **956 people died** in work zones nationwide, according to data from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS). Also in 2021, **108 highway worker fatalities** occurred in road construction sites, based on Bureau of Labor (BLS) data.

"We ask our citizens to be patient and responsible on the road," Lucas County Engineer Mike Pniewski said. "Keep our workers safe by giving them plenty of room so they can get back to their families every day and help keep yourself safe when traveling through a work zone by slowing down."



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Wednesday is Go Orange Day. The public is encouraged to wear orange to show awareness for work zone safety and support for road workers and use hashtags #NWZAW and #Orange4Safety on social media. The week concludes with a moment of silence on Friday to the people who lost their lives in a work zone incident.

**Plan ahead** and know your route ahead of time, be aware of any work zones and avoid if possible. **Pay attention** to your surroundings (signs, workers) and avoid distractions (using your phone, eating, drinking, etc.). **Slow down** when approaching a work zone and give workers plenty of space.

Ohio's Move Over law requires drivers to move over a lane for vehicles with flashing lights. If drivers cannot safely move over, they are required to slow down. Ohio's new distracted driving law, which makes texting while driving a primary offense, took effect April 4.

**WORK ZONE:  
PLAN AHEAD**



**RIGHT LANE CLOSED**

Research your route & use detours when possible

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**WORK ZONE:  
STAY ALERT**



When traveling in work zones, avoid all distractions

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**WORK ZONE:  
KEEP YOUR DISTANCE**



Never cut off a truck or bus

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Lucas County Engineer's Office



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