

NET RMA
Linda Thomas Safe Driving Scholarship

Olivia Duffer

March 15, 2022

Safe Driving

Safe Driving

What does it mean to drive safely? Safe driving is not only obeying the state or federal laws on the road but also being a defensive driver for others that might not be doing their job on the road. Safe driving is so important to not only yourself, but also to the people around you. Texting and driving is a big issue in teen drivers today. Texting while driving is the leading cause of car accidents. It is so easy for any driver to hear his phone beep and want to pick up the phone and just read it, but it only takes a second, and a wreck can happen. Texting while driving and drinking while driving are so dangerous for drivers on the road. Drinking while driving is very ignorant because these people are not in the right mindset to basically do anything correctly, but many people believe it is the only way to get home without "getting into trouble." I believe if people would really stop and think about the consequences of breaking the law, they would make better decisions.

The advantages of safe driving are numerous. Besides the obvious advantage of preserving one's own well-being and safety, there are other benefits. Car insurance rates skyrocket once you are involved in an accident, which means you would be paying a lot more just to drive your vehicle. Driving intelligently and safely allows you to keep your car for a longer time. Cars or trucks are not cheap, used or brand new. Keeping your car in its best condition can help you drive it for a longer period of time and keep it looking fresh. Obeying the law can also save you from getting a ticket. Speeding tickets, drunk driving tickets, texting and driving tickets, and not wearing a seatbelt tickets all get quite pricey. A ticket not only costs money but can also go on your driving record and stay with you forever.

On November 7, 2020, two of my best friends died in a car accident. Megan had been one of my best friends since my seventh grade year and her eighth grade year when we started cheerleading together. She took care of me like I was her little sister. Katie Jo was one of my newer friends. I met her and soon learned that she had a wonderful personality and kindness in her heart. Both of these girls touched so many people's hearts. Our small town was devastated, and honestly, we still have not recovered from it and never will. I have never thought that this would happen to people that were so close to me. You never think it will happen to you, until it does.