INTRODUCTION

The What Every Driver Must Know booklet contains information about operating a motor vehicle safely on Michigan roads. Although this publication includes information about many Michigan traffic laws, it is not meant as a legal document or as a substitute for the Michigan Vehicle Code. Information in this publication is subject to change.

Please remember that driving is a privilege and not a right. Drivers must drive responsibly and safely, obey traffic laws, and never drink and drive. Finally, make sure that you and your passengers are properly buckled up – it’s the law!

RESOURCES

This newest edition of What Every Driver Must Know is slimmed down from previous versions. Material that was not related to driving or important for a majority of drivers to know was removed. A resource guide is presented in the back of this booklet that provides other sources for information such as websites, printed materials and a customer service number that can help if you want to know more about topics in What Every Driver Must Know.

2015 MICHIGAN CRASH FACTS

Before you read further, consider these facts about driving in Michigan from the Michigan Traffic Crash Facts.

In 2015:

• 297,023 motor vehicle crashes were reported. Deaths numbered 963 and 74,157 people were injured.
• Alcohol was involved in 271 fatal crashes.
• Of 893 fatal crashes, 30.3 percent involved at least one drinking operator or pedestrian.
• Excessive speed was reported as a hazardous action for 22.9 percent of drivers involved in fatal crashes.
• Of all fatal crashes, 25 percent occurred at intersections.
• Licensed drivers ages 16-20 represent 6.6 percent of Michigan's driving population. This young driver group represented 11.1 percent (56,544) of all drivers in all
crashes and 10 percent (148) of drivers in fatal crashes.

- According to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, motor vehicle crashes are the No. 1 cause of unintentional fatal injuries for children ages 1-24.
- Licensed drives age 65 and older represent 19.4 percent of Michigan's driving population, 9.5 percent of drivers in all crashes, and 12.2 percent of drivers in fatal crashes.