



CARTEENS Makes A Difference!

Ohio 4-H CARTEENS has proven to be a valuable tool in educating Ohio's teen drivers and saving lives on Ohio roads. In addition, communities are strengthened by bringing together teens and adults representing local agencies and organizations that are working up to address this need. Teens also gain leadership, public speaking and organizational skills.

Data collected from 4-H CARTEENS participations indicate a significant reduction in second-time traffic offenses, increased use of safety belts, reduced drinking and driving and increased use of caution while driving.

More than 80 percent of the participants in a recent survey said they planned to use more caution when driving and will increase their use of seat belts.

Many Ohio counties have received an Award of Honor from the National Safety Council Youth Division in recognition of their program impacts.

What is 4-H CARTEENS?

The "CAR" in CARTEENS stands for "Caution And Responsibility." "TEENS" refers to the teenagers who help prepare and present the program.

In CARTEENS programs, 4-H teen leaders teach traffic education safety programs to first-time teen traffic offenders, while also building offenders self-esteem and interpersonal skills.

Teen traffic offenders attending this program have typically been cited for speeding, stop sign violations, reckless operation and other similar moving violations.

CARTEENS PROGRAM CONTENT

- Excessive Speed, driving under the influence and seat belt safety use
- Consequences of unsafe decisions and dealing with peer pressure
- Understanding traffic laws



Objectives

- Reducing the number of repeat juvenile traffic offenders
- Decreasing the number of teen traffic offenders
- Increasing teen awareness for traffic/vehicular safety

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: <http://go.osu.edu/>



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
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**2 out of 3
TEEN
fatalities
were NOT wearing
seatbelts**

Facts About Teen Driving

- Teen drivers are the most at risk group for traffic safety
- Between 2010 and 2012, teen drivers were at fault in 100,871 traffic crashes, resulting in more than 44,000 injuries and nearly 300 deaths in Ohio. The majority of these were caused by teenagers driving too fast. Teen drivers were also at fault in 10 percent of all fatal crashes during the same time period.
- From 2010-2012, 62 percent of the citations issued to teen drivers were for speed-related violations and 18 percent were for failure to wear a safety belt.

Background

For more than a century, The Ohio State University Extension 4-H Youth Development Program has helped people help themselves through educational programs and activities in each of Ohio's 88 counties.

OSU faculty and staff located in County Extension offices recruit and engage adult volunteers and teen leaders who provide leadership to educational programs for youth in local communities. Over the years, county assessments conducted by OSU Extension repeatedly identified teen vehicular safety as a priority need in Ohio's communities.

The 4-H CARTEENS vehicular safety initiative was developed in response to this need. The original CARTEENS Program began in Brown County, Ohio in 1987 with the support network of Becky Cropper (former Brown County OSU Extension 4-H Educator), volunteer teen leaders, the juvenile probate court and the Ohio Highway Patrol. Since 1987, the 4-H CARTEENS program has expanded throughout Ohio and to several other states across the



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