Above: Governor Scott, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), and the Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) are committed to preventing deaths and serious injuries by reducing distracted driving in Florida. To this end, the Florida Ban on Texting While Driving Law went into effect October 2013, and FDOT is promoting its “Put It Down” Campaign.

Turn to Page 6 to read more about Distracted Driving Awareness, the law, and the campaign.
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Mark Your Calendars

March 22-28  Magical History 20th Anniversary Tour
   Bike Florida
   bikeflorida.org/tours/bf20-the-magical-history-tour

April 7-11  National Work Zone Awareness Week
   American Traffic Safety Services Association
   atssa.com/Events/NationalWorkZoneAwarenessWeek.aspx

May 2  FACERS Awards Application Deadline
   facers.org/2726

May 7  National Bike to School Day
   Safe Routes to School
   walkbiketoschool.org/ready/about-the-events/bike-to-school-day

May 12-16  National Bike to Work Week
   League of American Bicyclists
   bikeleague.org/content/bike-month-dates-events
T2 Center Welcomes New Director: Chris LeDew, P.E.

The T2 Center is excited to announce that, after extensive interviews and a stringent screening process, Chris LeDew, P.E., began as Center Director on February 14, 2014. Chris earned his B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of Florida, and his M.S. in Transportation Engineering at the University of Central Florida with focus on Traffic Engineering, Geometric Design, Planning and Intelligent Transportation Systems, concentrating his thesis on the Safety Effects of Traffic Signalization in North Florida.

Chris comes to the Center after 27 years of building his skills in transportation management, traffic operations, and roadway maintenance with the Florida Department of Transportation. He brings with him a unique customer’s point of view as an engineering practitioner who has worked extensively with local, state, and federal transportation professionals. The T2 Center will benefit greatly from his broad understanding of state and federal funding sources and their requirements, and he hopes to apply his passion for traffic safety to preparing Florida for a brighter and safer future. He is eager to begin realizing his vision to lead the Center into prominence as a vital element of the newly-formed University of Florida Transportation Institute.

FACERS Annual Awards

Each year, the Florida Association of County Engineers and Road Superintendents (FACERS) honors a Public Works Employee, Small Agency or Rural* Engineer, Large Agency or Urban** Engineer, a Team Project of the Year, and Local Agency/State Agency Collaboration for projects completed in the previous year. Awards are open to all individuals in public works, transportation, and engineering in Florida’s counties and cities.

Nominees and nominators are not required to be FACERS members. The Awards Committee sends a letter to all nominees informing them of their nomination. Winners are recognized statewide at the Annual FACERS Conference and are featured in the Florida Technology Transfer Quarterly newsletter.

*Small Agency/Rural is defined as having a population less than 100,000.
**Large Agency/Urban is defined as having a population of 100,000 or more.

How do I nominate someone?

If you have a nominee in mind for an award, enter them and brag! Let us know what was done to deserve recognition. Make sure the effort was completed in 2013, and then visit facers.org to submit your nomination.

What information do I need?

You will need to have the nominee’s name, title, county/city, email, phone, and address. In addition, please provide the name of the project, the project completion date, and a description of the project that includes the following information:

- Outline of need/timeliness
- Impact on the agency budget
- Impact on the community
- Innovations used
- Leadership needed to successfully complete the project

Visit facers.org/2726 for more information about the awards and to view past winners. Email questions@facers.org with any questions.

***The deadline for applications is Friday, May 2, 2014***
Geosynthetic Reinforced Soil Integrated Bridge System (GRS-IBS) is a form of Accelerated Bridge Construction (ABC) that simultaneously lowers cost, slashes construction time, improves durability, and increases safety. For budget-challenged Local Public Agencies (LPAs), these benefits can be crucial.

Instead of conventional bridge supports that involve drilling a deep foundation, GRS-IBS technology uses alternating layers of compacted granular fill material and fabric sheets of geotextile reinforcement to provide support for the bridge. This reinforced soil method builds up the substructure in a faster, simpler way. One engineer described it as similar to building a layer cake, as illustrated in the GRS-IBS “recipe”:

1. Lay a row of facing blocks
2. Add a layer of compacted fill (soil, etc.) to the height of the facing blocks (8 in.)
3. Add a layer of geosynthetic fabric
4. Repeat steps 1-3 until desired height is achieved
5. Place bridge directly on GRS abutment mass
6. Build a GRS approach way behind the bridge beams
7. Transition bridge to approaching roadway

It’s really that simple! No joint or cast-in-place concrete is needed. The bridge extends naturally out of the roadway. This process provides a smooth transition from the bridge onto the roadway, and alleviates the “bump at the bridge” problem caused by uneven settlement between the bridge and approaching roadway.

This simplified process radically reduces construction time. Engineers can construct a GRS-IBS in days or weeks, not months, with no need to wait for cast-in-place concrete to dry since the substructure is immediately ready for the bridge.

Plus, on-site changes are easy to accommodate. As one engineer commented, “If I want to make it one foot wider, I put one more block in and take more fabric off the roll.” In addition, this type of construction can occur in variable conditions, so weather rarely causes delays, allowing for faster completion.

In all, GRS-IBS costs 25 to 30 percent less than standard pile cap abutments on deep foundations. This type of construction calls for common equipment and materials, making it easier to build than bridges designed according to current specifications and simpler to maintain since it requires fewer parts. Compared to a standard Department of Transportation bridge, this type of construction can achieve up to 60% cost savings!

For more information on GRS-IBS, please refer to FDOT’s Structures Design website at www.dot.state.fl.us/structures/innovation/GRS-IBS.shtm or visit ufl.to/pk to review the FHWA GRS Guide.

Did you know? The first GRS-IBS Bridge in Florida was constructed in 2013 on Sunshine Hill Road in Molino, Florida (Escambia County). The project replaced a 16-foot structurally deficient bridge with a new span length of 34 feet in just three weeks!
March 22–28
Palatka – Daytona Beach – St Augustine

Twenty years ago, in the summer of 1994, the newly formed Bike Florida launched its inaugural tour. A small but hardy group of riders left St. Augustine headed for Tallahassee with the objective to let state officials know that Bike Florida intended to put The Sunshine State on the map of places cyclists love to tour.

In spring 2014, Bike Florida is returning to St. Augustine several hundred riders strong to celebrate its 20th anniversary and to toast the happy fact that Florida has indeed become a popular destination for bicycle touring enthusiasts. The route has been carefully chosen to take riders through a region that is rich in history and culture in its own right.

Riders will assemble on Saturday, March 22, in the City of Palatka, on a wide bend of the mighty St. John’s River. After registering on Saturday, riders can take Palatka’s historic downtown “mural tour,” explore its waterfront, and visit the unique geological features of the Ravine Gardens State Park and other nearby points of interest. Palatka is celebrating its history in the heart of famed naturalist William Bartram’s colonial travels along the St. John’s River, and on Sunday, cyclists can follow in his footsteps by choosing the Bartram Century or the Bartram Metric Century routes.

Daytona Beach

On Monday, riders will leave Palatka on a 63-mile trek to Daytona Beach and then on to the quirky ocean-side town of Flagler Beach. From there, riders will follow the Atlantic south to Ormond Beach, where Volusia County officials will host an old-fashioned beach party for riders.

Tuesday brings riders the opportunity to cycle the track at the Daytona Speedway and have their photos taken in the winner’s circle, before riding on to their choice of visiting the lighthouse at Ponce Inlet, heading north to complete the Loop tour, or riders feeling particularly ambitious that day can combine both routes for a total of 80+ miles. Taking the day off and lying on the beach is also considered acceptable.

St Augustine

On Wednesday, the tour embarks on a journey of approximately 55 miles to “America’s First City,” St. Augustine. Points of interest along the way will include Marineland, Washington Oaks State Park, Fort Matanzas National Monument, the scenic Matanzas Inlet, Anastasia State Park, and the lighthouse on Anastasia Island. St. Augustine, of course, is a city steeped in history, from the sprawling Spanish Castillo de San Marcos to the restored Colonial Quarters to the Fountain of Youth Archeological Park and much more.

During their St. Augustine layover, riders can choose between a century, metric century, or an approximately 40-mile “up and back” beach ride. Each route winds through the seaside resort community of Ponte Vedra and passes the Guana River Wildlife Preserve and Environmental Center.

Thursday night will be a magical celebration of Bike Florida 20th Anniversary on the spacious grounds of the Fountain of Youth Archeological Park. This occasion will be a chance to reminisce about tours past, celebrate longtime friendships forged, and relive good times spent on two wheels.

Gullah-Geechee Interlude

The final day’s ride back to Palatka will be a relatively short one, about 37 miles, but it will feature a very special visit to the historic trailside community of Armstrong, part of the National Park Service’s Gullah-Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor, a designation intended to recognize communities founded by the descendants of the slaves who were brought here from Africa. Residents of the community are eager to welcome tour riders with some special festivities on our final day’s ride.

More Fun In Store!

More than just great riding, the tour also includes nightly celebrations and guest speakers. The registration fee covers outdoor camping or indoor sleeping accommodations, luggage transport, SAG, rest stop and other ride support services, as well as map packets and cue sheets.

More info: bikeflorida.org/tours/bf20-the-magical-history-tour
Visit t2ctt.ce.ufl.edu to view the full course listings or to register for any of our sessions. For more information about T2 workshops, email t2workshops@ce.ufl.edu or call 352.273.1670. For CTQP courses, email ctt@ce.ufl.edu or call 352.273.1669. Please note that CTQP courses for January and February are primarily exclusive courses for public agencies. If you need training and do not see the specific course available, please call and give us an opportunity to arrange for your professional training requirements. We look forward to serving you.

Advanced Maintenance of Traffic
- February 26–28, 2014, Bradenton
- February 27–28, 2014, Pompano Beach
- March 12–14, 2014, Gainesville
- March 25–27, 2014, Tampa
- April 22–24, 2014, Panama City
- April 23–25, 2014, Jacksonville
- April 20–May 1, 2014, Tallahassee

Advanced MOT Refresher
- February 21, 2014, Tallahassee
- February 28, 2014, Bradenton
- March 11, 2014, Gainesville
- March 19, 2014, Pompano Beach
- March 24, 2014, Tampa
- April 22, 2014, Jacksonville
- April 25, 2014, Panama City

Asphalt Paving Level 1
- March 10, 2014, Chipley

Asphalt Paving Level 2
- March 11, 2014, Chipley

Asphalt Plant Level 1
- March 10–12, 2014, Gainesville

Final Estimates Level 1
- April 2, 2014, Gainesville

Final Estimates Level 2
- April 3–4, 2014, Gainesville

Front-end Loader Safety/Hands-on
- March 18–20, 2014, Cape Coral

Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic
- March 4–5, 2014, Orlando
- March 5–6, 2014, Fort Myers
- March 12–13, 2014, Milton
- March 26–27, 2014, Punta Gorda
- April 1–2, 2014, Cape Coral
- April 9–10, 2014, Gainesville
- April 9–10, 2014, Tallahassee
- April 16–17, 2014, Pompano Beach
- April 16–17, 2014, Temple Terrace

Intermediate MOT Refresher
- February 19, 2014, DeLand
- March 3, 2014, Orlando
- March 4, 2014, Fort Myers
- March 11, 2014, Milton
- March 25, 2014, Punta Gorda
- April 8, 2014, Gainesville
- April 8, 2014, Tallahassee
- April 15, 2014, Pompano Beach
- April 15, 2014, Temple Terrace

Pile Driving Inspection
- March 17–19, 2014, Orlando

Pilot/Escort Flagging
- March 6, 2014, Gainesville
- March 11, 2014, Panama City
- March 3, 2014, Gainesville
- April 3, 2014, Panama City
- April 15, 2014, Orlando

Quality Control Manager
- February 20–21, 2014, Gainesville

Temporary Traffic Control Plan Development Workshop
- March 18, 2014, Gainesville

April is Distracted Driving Awareness Month

Sending or receiving a text takes a driver’s eyes from the road for an average of 4.6 seconds. According to research, a vehicle traveling at 55 mph could travel the length of an entire football field in that time.

Imagine driving that far with your eyes closed! Drivers who are text messaging are six times more likely to crash than drivers with their eyes on the road. Forty-one states, the District of Columbia, and Guam have banned text messaging for all drivers. Twelve of these laws were enacted in 2010 alone. Eleven states, the District of Columbia, and the Virgin Islands prohibit all drivers from using handheld cell phones while driving.

A Florida law (Statute Section 316.305) that went into effect October 1, 2013, prohibits operating an in-motion motor vehicle while manually typing emails, text messages, or instant messages into a wireless communications device (meaning any handheld device used or capable of being used in a handheld manner). So, law enforcement officers can now issue a citation to drivers engaging in such risky behavior. Not only is it unsafe for you and others on the road, it’s also against the law. Don’t risk it: PUT IT DOWN!

Distracted Driving Awareness Resources
- About the law: flsenate.gov/Laws/Statutes/2013/316.305
- Put It Down Campaign Website: justputitdown.com
- USDOT Distracted Driving Website: distraction.gov
- OSHA Information Sheet: osha.gov/distracted-driving
- Additional Distracted Driving Campaign Materials: trafficsafetymarketing.gov (Campaigns Drop-down Menu)
FDOT Summary of Final Research Reports

New topics available!

Access dot.state.fl.us/research-center for these summaries and final reports. Click on Completed Research in the lefthand menu. Summaries are listed by category.

**Geotechnical**
- Development of LRFD Resistance Factors for Retaining Walls (BDK75-977-22)
- Embedded Data Collector (EDC) Evaluation Phase II – Comparison with Instrumented Static Load Tests (BDK75-977-24)

**Maintenance**
- Opportunities on the State Highway System to Generate Revenue or Offset Expenditures for the State of Florida (BDK80-977-34)

**Materials**
- Continuation of Down-Hole Geophysical Testing for Rock Sockets (BDK75-977-51)

**Planning**
- Application of Dynamic Traffic Assignment to Advanced Managed Lane Modeling (BDK80-977-30)
- Development of Speed Models for Improving Travel Forecasting and Highway Performance Evaluation (BDK83-977-14)
- Heavy Vehicle Effects on Florida Freeways and Highways (BDK77-977-15)
- Modeling, Implementation and Validation of Arterial Travel Time Reliability (BDK77-977-20)

**Public Transportation**
- Improving Cost Effectiveness of Financial Incentives in Managing Travel Demand Management (TDM) (BDK85-977-41)

**Road Design**
- Evaluation of Pollution Levels Due to the Use of Consumer Fertilizers under Florida Conditions (BDK78-977-04)

**Structures**
- Evaluation of Vibration Limits and Mitigation Techniques for Urban Construction (BDK80-977-22)
- Movable Bridge Maintenance Monitoring (BDK78-977-10)
- Steel Shear Strength of Anchors with Stand-Off Base Plates (BDK75-977-49)

**Traffic Engineering and Operations**
- Coordinated Pre-Preemption of Traffic Signals to Enhance Railroad Grade Crossing Safety in Urban Areas and Estimation of Train Impacts to Arterial Travel Time Delay (BDK85-977-44)
- Dynamic Flashing Yellow Arrow (FYA) - a Study on Variable Left Turn Model Operational and Safety Impacts (BDK78-977-15)
- Lifting High-Occupancy Vehicle Lane Eligibility and Shoulder Use Restrictions for Traffic Incident Management (BDK77-977-23)

New at the T2 Media Center

Below is a sample of new items added to the Media Center collection since the last newsletter. Visit t2ctt.ce.ufl.edu/t2ctt/T2_Media_Center.asp to view all new listings.

As always, any non-copyrighted publication can be printed and checked out to you upon request. Visit the website, call 352.273.1687, or email mediacenter@ce.ufl.edu for more information.

- A Framework for Improving Travel Time Reliability
- A Guide to Developing Marketing Research for Highway Innovations
- A Multivariate Analysis of Crash and Naturalistic Driving Data in Relation to Highway Factors
- Distance Technology Transfer Course Content Development
- Evaluation of Free Flow Speeds on Interrupted Flow Facilities
- Integrating Transit with Road Pricing Projects
- Road Accident Investigation Guidelines for Road Engineers
- Smart Pavement Monitoring System
- Strengthening Road Safety Legislation: A Practice and Resource Manual for Countries
- Synthesis of the Advance in and Application of Fractal Characteristics of Traffic Flow
- The New Majority: Pedaling Towards Equity
- Transit Boardings Estimation and Simulation Tool Calibration for Guideway and Bus Rapid Transit Modes
- DRIVE-SMART Driver Monitoring and Crash Risk Mitigation System
- Pedestrian and Bicyclist Warning Devices and Signs at Highway-Rail and Pathway-Rail Grade Crossing
- Strategic Plan to Optimize the Management of Right-of-Way Parcel and Utility Information at the Florida Department of Transportation
- A Qualitative Analysis of Bus Simulator Training on Transit Incidents: A Case Study in Florida
An extremely successful CPS Tech Update was held in Jacksonville on February 3, 2014. Special thanks go to the hard-working team of Dr. Morya Willis, Debora Bland, Kim Herrmann, and Danielle Kessenger for spending their time and energy in arranging the event. Nearly 60 techs attended and were challenged to renew or improve their skills by going through a series of hands-on stations, such as filling out car seat checklists, looking up installation instructions in vehicle manuals, and practicing installations using various car seats in different vehicles. Sarah Tilton from Britax attended and provided a product update, as well as a presentation on the previously-mentioned LATCH changes effective February 27, 2014. Visit our Facebook page to see photos from the event.

Below is a list of items currently available to order at no charge through the Promotional Items portion of the OPRC website. Also available are links to resources that are formatted to print immediately on your own printer.

Like what we have to offer? Have suggestions? The OPRC would love to hear from you about improvements that can be made to serve you better. Please email floridaoprc@ce.ufl.edu or call 352.273.1671 to provide your valued input. Or visit facebook.com/FloridaOPRC to like us and connect.

**Stickers**
- Be Safe, Buckle Up — In a Booster (Bilingual)
- Be Safe, Buckle Up — Moose (Spanish)

**Tattoos**
- Be Safe, Buckle Up
- Pre-teen Car Safety

**Other Fun Stuff**
- I’m Safe! In The Car Paint Sheet *E/S
- Magnet with OPRC Logo **NEW!**

**DVDs**
- I’m Safe! in the Car
- 2012 Child Restraint Manufacturers’ Instructions with Summary Sheets *I/T
- Simple Steps to Child Passenger Safety (Living Legacy) *I/T

**Publications**
- Spanish Flip Book *I/T

*E/S — Available in English and Spanish
*I/T — Available to CPS Instructors and Technicians only
Florida’s Pedestrian and Bicycling Safety Resource Center

Supplying materials to make your safety event successful

Make your ped/bike events and educational activities more successful by providing items that reinforce safe walking and bicycling practices. Items listed below are available at no charge to qualifying Florida organizations. Visit pedbikesrc.ce.ufl.edu for descriptions, illustrations, and ordering information.

**“Slow Down” Safety Signs**
- Roller Girl
- Skateboard Boy

**Books**
- Bicycle Safety
- Cycling Skills Clinic Guide
- Florida Pedestrian Law Enforcement Guide
- Florida Bicycling Street Smarts
- Sprocketman Comic Book

**Bookmarks**
- I’m A Safe Walker
- You Can’t Stop a Train
- Top Ten Rules

**Coloring Books**
- Safety Fun (Spanish)
- Traffic Safety
- Practice Bike Safety
- I’m Safe on My Bike
- I’m a Safe Walker

**Activity Sheets**
- I’m Safe! Paint Sheet – Bike *E/S
- I’m Safe! Paint Sheet – Bus *NEW!
- I’m Safe! Paint Sheet – Walk *E/S
- Paul’s A-Maze-ing Trip
- Sara and Her Bike
- Secret Code
- Walk ’n Roll Punch Cards
- What’s Wrong with This Picture?

**Brochures**
- Crosswalk Safety *E/S
- Getting to School Safely
- Kids Physical Activity *E/S
- Know the Rules – Going To & From School *E/S
- Neighborhood Safety *E/S
- Parent’s Guide
- Prevent Pedestrian Crashes
- Tips for Parents and Other Adults for Teaching Pedestrian Safety to Children *E/S
- Tips for Walking Safely to School (Spanish)

**Posters**
- Be Safe Be Bright, Retro Reflectivity
- Hispanic Pedestrian Poster: Crosswalk and Signals
- Hispanic Pedestrian Poster: Caution
- Hispanic Pedestrian Poster: Sidewalks
- Hispanic Bicycling Poster
- Are You A Safe Walker?
- I’m Safe On My Bike

**Stickers**
- Use Your Head (Dog) (Bilingual)
- Use Your Head (Moose)
- Walk Safely!
- Walking School Bus

**Tattoos**
- I’m Safe – Be Safe! Wear a Helmet
- I’m Safe – Think B4 You Step
- I’m Safe – Use Your Brain! Wear a Helmet!

**Other Fun Stuff**
- Be Safe Be Seen Mood Pencils

**DVDs**
- Walk to School – Safe is Cool
- Courtesy Promotes Safety
- Disney Safety Hits Vol. 1
- Disney Safety Hits Vol. 2 (LOAN)
- Florida School Crossing Guard Training Program
- I’m Safe – On Wheels
- I’m Safe – Walk with Me
- Jello in a Jar
- Middle School Helmet Safety Program
- Pedestrian Law Enforcement Training
- Professor Helmut on Helmets
- Ride Smart: It’s Time to Start
- Slow Down/Pay Up or Crash

**CDs**
- Safer Journey
- Walk Smart & Bike Smart

*E/S: Available in English and Spanish