



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY
P.O. BOX 1321
DOVER, DELAWARE 19903-1321
302-744-2740
www.ohs.delaware.gov

Newsletter Article

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Phone Hands Free

I started a few months back, sometimes successfully, to put down the cell phone while I am driving. I even bought a blue tooth and I used the blue tooth, until I lost it. Then I bought another. And even though I have spent \$40 for the first one and \$12 for the second, I have still spent less money than if I had to pay a fine.

Beginning January 2nd, the new law restricting cell phone use goes into effect. That means that drivers will not be allowed to talk without using a hands free device. In addition, anyone who reads, writes, or sends text messages, email, or uses the internet while driving can be ticketed at least \$50 for the first offense. And the subsequent penalties are even higher.

This is considered a primary offense meaning officers will be able to pull you over specifically for violating this new law. There are a couple of exceptions you may want to be aware of. Police and other emergency personnel may use cell phones in the course of their official duties as needed. In addition those that work for companies with two way radios fix-mounted in their fleet of vehicles may use those to communicate for business purposes.

The solutions are simple. Really.

- Don't text and drive
- Use a wireless device
- Focus your attention on driving

If you follow these simple tips and follow the rules of the road, you won't have to worry about unnecessary fines. For more information about distracted driving, visit our website at www.ohs.delaware.gov.

Phone Hands Free. Arrive Alive DE.