



It is Deer season and now is the time to remind drivers of the dangers of animals in the roadway. The **Insurance Institute for Highway Safety** estimates that 1.5 million accidents a year occur involving deer. Deer are struck in three out of four accidents involving animals. Nationally, deer collisions with vehicles annually cause some \$1.1 billion in vehicle damage, kill 150 people, and injure another 29,000 people. Cattle, horses, dogs, and bears also led to fatalities in collisions. Crashes with deer are most likely to occur in late fall during deer breeding, migration, and hunting season. Accidents with deer are likely to occur on rural roads with a speed limit of 55 mph or higher speed limits in darkness or at dusk or dawn. In 60% of the accidents involving human fatalities with animal-vehicle collisions, the fatality was caused not by the collision with the deer but failure to wear a safety belt. The animal-vehicle collision is the first event and often not the deadliest. It is what occurs with the vehicle after the initial collision that is often the cause of the fatality, i.e. striking a fixed object or another vehicle(s). There is no feasible way to keep deer and other animals off of the roadway. Deer whistles have been sold over the years as a way of avoiding deer collisions. I can personally attest that the whistles work; however, it is still up to the deer what action is taken after hearing the whistle. This may include standing still in the roadway or running directly at you; therefore, drivers need to be vigilant at all times and especially in those areas that are prone to animal crossing. Interested in seeing the likelihood of being involved in an accident in your area click on the following: http://www.statefarm.com/pdf/deer_map.pdf

1. **Be especially alert for animals on the roadway during dusk, dawn and darkness.**
2. **Wear your safety belt at all times.**
3. **Reduce your speed at night and do not overdrive your headlights.**
4. **Make sure that all items inside of your cab are secure and would not be a flying object hazard in the event of an accident.**
5. **Drive with your high beams on during darkness when no other vehicles are oncoming.**
6. **Pay specific attention to areas where animal warning signs have been placed along the roadway.**
7. **If you see an animal in the roadway, lay on the horn with a long steady blast to frighten the animal.**
8. **Keep in mind that deer generally travel in herds - if you see one, there is a strong possibility others are nearby.**
9. **If a collision with an animal is unavoidable, stay in your lane and DO NOT swerve. By an erratic maneuver, you risk rolling the vehicle or losing control and striking another vehicle or fixed object.**
10. **Do not rely on vehicle-mounted deer whistles as there is no evidence that they work.**

Have you checked your SafeStat Information Lately?
 October's SafeStat report is now available for all motor carriers with a US DOT number operating in interstate commerce. Go to www.ai.volpe.dot.gov and click on the menu and then SafeStat Online.

NEWS

On October 31, 2008 the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia has issued an order staying the direct observation of urine samples of truck drivers for return to duty and follow up testing that was to go into place on November 1, 2008.

Quebec to mandate speed limiters on January 1, 2009.
 The regulation requires that all heavy trucks manufactured after December 31, 1994 in excess of 26,000 lbs have a working speed limiter set at 105 KPH or 65 MPH. The regulation applies to all trucks doing business in or traveling through Quebec regardless of domicile. The Ontario Ministry of Transportation has also indicated that they want to implement a similar regulation as of January 1, 2009.

Question: Do the FMCSA regulations require an interstate motor carrier to report information to the FMCSA on a regular basis? If so, what information is required?
Answer: The FMCSA requires all interstate carriers to file a MCS-150 or MCS-150B, if a Safety permit is required, every 24 months based on the last two digits of the US DOT number. The last digit of the number dictates the month and the second to last digit dictates the year. If the second to last digit is even, you report in even number years; an odd digit, you report in odd number years.

If there has been a change to your operation, increase in units, change of address, etc. you can file at any time and is recommended. You can file your MCS-150 on line, fax or mail.

A motor carrier that submits similar information to a State as part of its annual vehicle registration requirement under the Performance and Registration Information System (PRISM) complies if it files this information with the appropriate State commercial motor vehicle (CMV) registration office. The Motor Carrier Identification Report, Form MCS-150, and the combined Motor Carrier Identification Report and HM Permit Application, Form MCS-150B, with complete instructions, are available from:

- The FMCSA Web site at: <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov> (Keyword "MCS-150" or "MCS-150B").
- All FMCSA service centers and division offices nationwide.
- By calling 1-800-832-5660.
- Or download a copy of the form by clicking on [MCS-150](#).

USDOT Number ending in:	Must file by last day of:
1.....	January
2.....	February
3.....	March
4.....	April
5.....	May
6.....	June
7.....	July
8.....	August
9.....	September
0.....	October