

30 People will die today in a Rural Roadway Departure – Let's save the people behind the numbers



Reducing Roadside Obstacles

An FHWA EDC-5 Webinar in collaboration with NLTAPA and the National Center for Rural Road Safety

August 12, 2021

1:00-3:00 pm ET/10:00 am-12:00 pm PT

Rural roadway departures make up a third of U.S. traffic fatalities—about 30 people a day. While valued as a community asset due to their beauty and environmental benefits, trees are the single most commonly struck objects in serious roadside crashes. Trees are the most harmful event in approximately 3,500 fatalities each year, or 10 percent of all traffic fatalities.

This webinar will focus on how several agencies are strategically removing trees to provide for safer recovery during roadway departures.

State, local, and tribal stakeholders – come and learn how you can address tree crashes to provide a more forgiving roadside.

Speakers and Topics to be covered include:

- **Cody Stolle, University of Nebraska** will present information related to the societal costs, liability considerations, and initial developments supporting a national campaign for locating trees at a safe and reasonable distance from the traveled way.
- **Rebecca Wells, Texas DOT** will describe how a project in the Atlanta District to remove roadside trees to reduce known fatality problem was conducted.
- **Ryan Pothering, Connecticut DOT** will present on how Connecticut DOT uses safety data to support tree clearing efforts on the State's primary and secondary highways.
- **Mona Aglan-Swick, P.E. Arizona DOT** will talk about ADOT's statewide tree removal project and how it was conducted on a variety of highway types.

This webinar is free and open to anyone who is interested.

Registration: Participants must register in advance at

<https://connectdot.connectsolutions.com/eahzmbvak6jc/event/registration.html>

Space is limited. Please register as soon as possible.

The Federal Highway Administration is committed to providing equal access to this webinar for all participants. Closed captioning will be provided. If you need alternative formats or services because of a disability, please contact Jennifer Symoun at jennifer.symoun@toxcel.com with your request by close of business August 11, 2021.

Certificates of participation that may be used for 2 professional development hour (PDH) credits if accepted by your licensing agency will be available to those who attend the live webinar.

All FoRRRwD webinars are recorded and available at

<https://safety.fhwa.dot.gov/FoRRRwD/resources.cfm>

Questions? Please do not hesitate to contact support contractor, Jennifer Symoun, toxcel,

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Rural Road Safety