

# St. Charles County News

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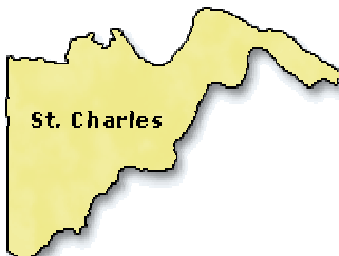
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[modot.org/stlouis](http://modot.org/stlouis)



## Traffic Fatalities Up in Missouri, New Legislation Could Help

Primary Safety Belt legislation and an All Driver Texting Ban have both been introduced in the Missouri State Legislature this session and they couldn't come at a better time.

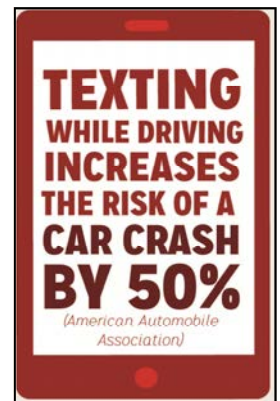
After two years of seeing decreases in the number of fatal accidents in Missouri, there was an 11 percent increase in 2015. More than 850 people were killed on state roads last year. Twenty-three of those were in St. Charles County, which ranked sixth in the state for vehicle deaths.

Sixty-three percent of those killed were not wearing their seatbelts according to the Missouri State Highway Patrol. Most of the accidents were caused by speeding, driver inattention and impaired driving.

These are trends we don't want to continue in 2016, so here are a few tips to help protect you and your loved ones:

- Never drive distracted. One text can take your eyes off the road for an average of four seconds.
- Drive the speed limit. Slow down in bad weather, work zones or near emergency vehicles.
- Always wear your seat belt. You have a one in 31 chance of being killed in a crash when not wearing your safety belt compared to a one in 1,285 chance when you do.

For more information on how to protect yourself and to stay up-to-date on the pending legislation, go to [www.savemolives.com](http://www.savemolives.com).



## Heavy Rains Cause Major Flooding, Closures of Three Interstates

December 2015 ended with a bang when heavy rains caused historic flooding around the region right after Christmas.

Over the course of three days, as much as 12 inches of rain fell around the region. The heavy rains forced the closure of Interstates 70 and 55 due to flooding - something which has never happened before. Interstate 44 also had to be closed due to flooding.

According to the National Weather Service, the storm made 2015 the wettest year on record. December 26 also broke some records with the nearly five inches of rain that fell that day making it third wettest day ever recorded in St. Louis history.



Flooding on I-70 last month

To report a road concern, contact  
MoDOT Customer Service at  
314-275-1500 or toll free at  
1-888-ASK-MODOT  
(1-888-275-6636)