

NH's New Hands Free Electronic Device Law

will be in effect July 1, 2015.

What does this mean?

- No use of **hand held electronic** devices capable of providing voice or data communication while driving or temporarily halted in traffic for a stop sign or traffic signal or other momentary delays
- This includes cell phones, GPS, tablets, iPods, iPads or other devices that require data entry
- Emergency calls to 911 or other public safety agencies will be allowed
- **One hand** non-cellular 2-way radio use will be allowed
- Teen drivers under the age of 18 will not be allowed to use **any** electronic devices (hand held or not) except to report an emergency. Anyone violating this will be subject to penalties and license suspension or revocation.
- Bluetooth or other **hands-free** electronic devices will be allowed
- If your vehicle is not equipped with Bluetooth functionality, auto service centers can install after-market systems or over the ear devices can be purchased at retailers such as Staples, Best Buy or your cell phone carrier.

Penalties for Violations

1st Offense.....	\$100 fine
2nd Offense	\$250 fine
3rd Offense within 2 years	\$500 fine

Penalty assessments will be added to the fines



Why is the NH Law Important?

- During the past 4 years, 116 fatal crashes in New Hampshire were caused by distraction
- The increasing use of electronic devices is fast becoming the primary distraction
- While texting, a driver is 23 times more likely to crash
- Sending or receiving a text distracts the driver for almost 5 seconds
- At 50 miles per hour, we travel longer than the length of a football field during that 5 seconds
- Even dialing a phone number increases the risk of crashing by **3** times.