

# Cell Phones, Driving and the Law



## Know the law

- Cell phone use while driving is against Wisconsin law for any driver with a probationary license or instruction permit, except to report an emergency.
- The law applies to all cell phones: handheld and hands-free.
- Texting while driving is against the law for ALL drivers in Wisconsin.

## Know the cost

- If you break the law, you receive a ticket for Inattentive Driving, four demerit points and a fine.
- If you have an instruction permit or probationary license and any prior moving violation, the demerit points double.
- If you have a probationary license, are under Graduated Driver License (GDL) restrictions and it is the only ticket you received, your GDL restrictions will be extended an additional six months.
- If you have an instruction permit, you must wait six months from the date of violation to be eligible for a probationary license.

## Avoid the risk and stay safe

- Turn off your phone or switch to silent mode every time you get behind the wheel.
- Record your voice mail message to tell callers that you are driving.
- Pull over and stop in a safe area if you must use your cell phone.
- Or ask a passenger to call or text for you.

## Understand the most important cost

- Your risk of crashing into someone or something greatly increases when you use a cell phone while operating your vehicle. What's the cost if you damage your vehicle or hurt someone?

***Texting while driving is  
against the law for ALL  
drivers in Wisconsin.***



**DRIVE NOW  
TEXT LATER**