October Newsletter

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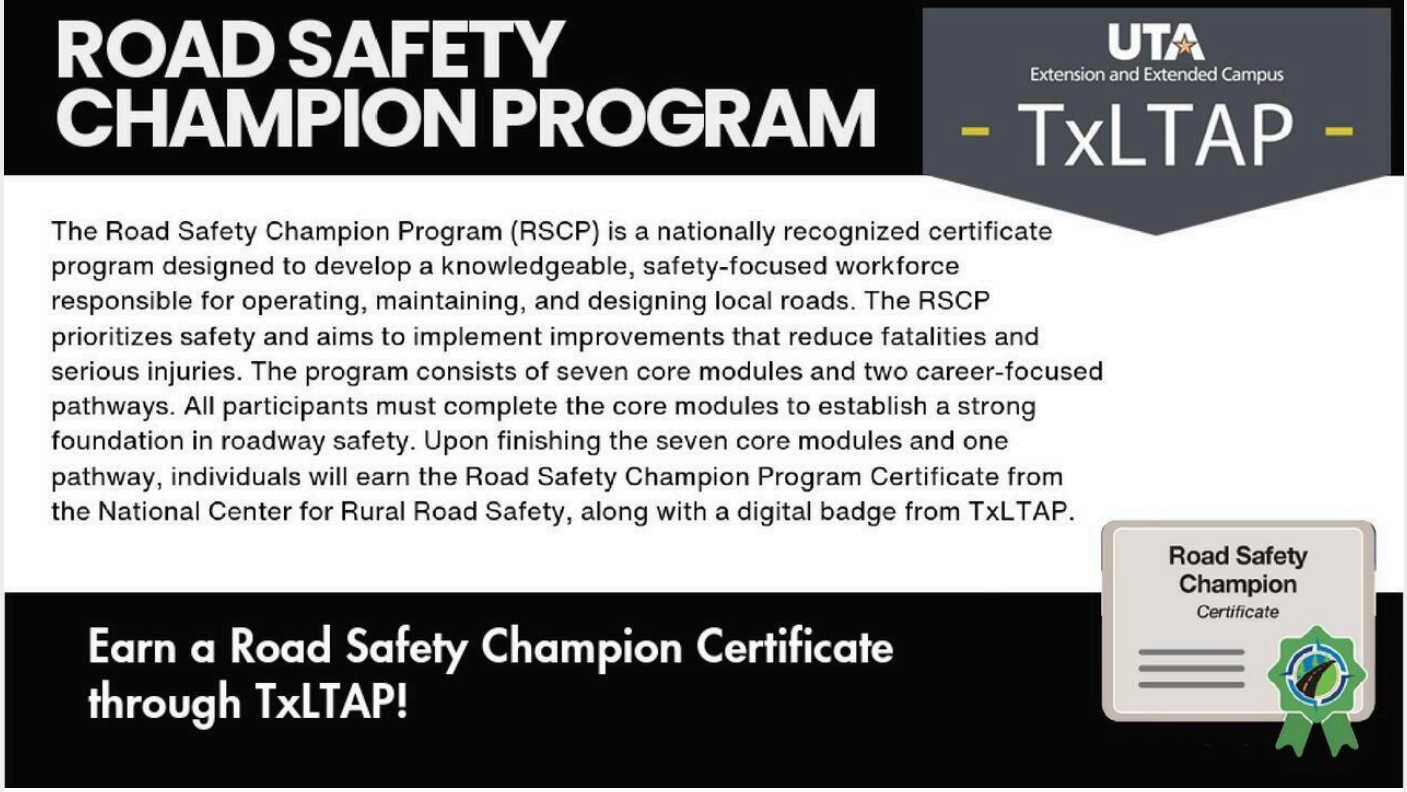
TxLTAP

Ready to Become a Road Safety Champion?

What is the Road Safety Champion Program?



Starting this October - Don't Miss Out!

The next Road Safety Champion Program series through TxLTAP begins **October 13!**

Build your knowledge, strengthen your roadway safety practices, and earn a **Road Safety Champion Certificate** through this nationally recognized program.

Email txltap@uta.edu for more information.

See the Full Program Schedule Here!

Grant-funded Resource

Know Before You Dig: Why Utility Locating Matters - Check out our latest video!

You've likely seen colored flags or paint markings on roadsides, job sites, or around infrastructure. These markings identify underground utilities and proposed areas of excavation. Understanding what these colors mean helps crews work safely and avoid damaging critical infrastructure.

Learn how the Technical Assistance resource can assist your workforce with expert guidance and practical support.

Looking Ahead: Same Commitment, Stronger Together

Getting training for your crews is easy with TxLTAP, trainings are at **no-cost for Texas city and county employees**. Our instructors travel directly to your location to deliver high-quality, hands-on training. Request now and earn the certifications that strengthen your workforce.

If your team hasn't scheduled yet, consider this your reminder that **TxLTAP is a dedicated resource for Texas communities**—we're here to support your staff and help you meet your training goals throughout the year.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

REQUEST TRAINING

Safety Spotlight

Dedicate October to Safety

October 4-10 marks **Fire Prevention Week**, a time dedicated to raising awareness about fire safety and prevention. This annual observance serves as a reminder to review fire safety practices, identify potential hazards, and help promote a safer environment both at work and at home.

Learn more from NFPA about Fire Prevention Weeks

Tailgate Talks: Make Safety A Habit

This safety talk highlights seven key human factors, including hazard recognition, proper training, setting a good example, and avoiding rushed or impulsive decisions. By

practicing safe work habits and looking out for one another, employees can help create a safer workplace for everyone.

The idea of a tailgate safety talk is to take a discrete activity, practice, or piece of equipment and drill into it quickly in a way that is relevant to what local agencies are doing or are likely to encounter.

Read More

Build A Better Mousetrap

Johnson County, Iowa Earns National Recognition for Innovation

Congratulations to Johnson County, Iowa, recipient of the 2026 SMART Transformation Award in the Build a Better Mousetrap (BABM) Competition. Their winning innovation, the *Roadway Survey Mobile Rig*, is a vehicle-mounted GPS data collection platform that allows roadway information to be gathered at normal operating speeds. By reducing the need for workers to be exposed to live traffic, the solution improves both operational efficiency and roadway safety.

The Build a Better Mousetrap Competition recognizes innovative tools, equipment modifications, and processes developed by local transportation and public works agencies to improve safety, efficiency, and service. Cities, counties, and other local agencies across Texas are encouraged to participate by submitting creative solutions developed in-house to address everyday challenges. Whether it's a custom-built device, a process improvement, or a new way of getting the job done, BABM is an opportunity to showcase local ingenuity and gain national recognition for innovation in transportation and public works.

Learn How You Can Enter the BABM Competition

#DriveLikeATexan

Football season is a chance to make great memories cheering for your team and tailgating with family and friends. That's why TxDOT is reminding fans to celebrate football season responsibly by always finding a sober ride through its Drive Sober. No Regrets. statewide impaired driving campaign. The campaign aims to reduce the number of DUI-alcohol related traffic crashes, especially as fans gather across the state to support their favorite teams.

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