

NEWS RELEASE

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State Law: Move vehicles off road after most crashes

BATON ROUGE – Last year Louisiana motorists were involved in 109,000 crashes that resulted in property damage, a statistic that indicates most drivers will likely experience a crash sometime during their lives. The Louisiana Highway Safety Commission is reminding motorists of some steps they should take following a crash.

State law requires motorists in most vehicle crashes to safely remove their vehicles to the shoulder of the road to avoid creating further hazards and to reduce traffic congestion. Exceptions to the removal requirement include:

- If the driver is prevented from moving the vehicle because he or she was injured in the crash
- If the crash resulted in serious injury or death of any person
- If the vehicle was disabled by the crash

“Crashed vehicles left on the road can cause other crashes as congestion is created and other drivers maneuver to avoid the vehicles,” said Lt. Col. John LeBlanc, executive director of the Louisiana Highway Commission.

Other steps motorists should take when involved in a crash include:

- Call EMS if there are injuries
- Call the police and wait for an officer to arrive
- Turn on your hazard lights
- Exchange names and contact information with drivers of other vehicles involved in the crash
- Notify your insurance company
- Make written notes about the accident while details are fresh in your mind
- Be polite and do not get involved in arguments with others involved in the crash

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