

# DID YOU KNOW?

- Nationally, aggressive drivers cause *two-thirds* of all fatal accidents
- In Delaware, aggressive driving was a contributing factor *in more than half* of the fatal crashes
- More than *50%* of the motorists surveyed by NHTSA admitted to driving aggressively on occasion

aggressive driving leads to **Road Rage**

- Road Rage incidents most frequently occur during Friday afternoon rush hours, in the summer months, during good weather and on urban freeways

Delaware's **Aggressive Driving Law** defines aggressive driving as offenses such as failure to yield, unsafe lane change, disregarding a traffic control device, failure to stop, following too closely, passing on the shoulder, passing a stopped school bus and speeding.

Motorists convicted of three or more of these offenses as the result of a single incident may be found guilty of aggressive driving. First time offenders will be fined not less than \$100 nor more than \$300 and will be required to attend a class designed to modify problem driving behavior.

## Tips to help

- If you're angry or emotionally upset, avoid driving.. instead take a walk and "let off some steam" *before* getting into your car
- Play soothing music or a book on tape while driving
- Get plenty of rest before embarking on a long auto trip
- Concentrate on being relaxed when stuck in a traffic jam.. practice deep breathing, loosen the grip on the steering wheel and avoid clenching your teeth
- Consider altering your schedule or route to avoid traffic congestion
- Improve the comfort of your car... use your air conditioner or heater to maintain a suitable and pleasant temperature
- Allow plenty of time to get where you are going
- If you're traveling to an unfamiliar area, map and plan your trip before starting out
- Practice common courtesy on the roadway

## What to do when confronted by an aggressive driver... and how to avoid becoming a victim of

### **Road Rage:**

- Avoid eye contact
- Don't attempt to "hold your own" by blocking a passing lane or accelerate to prevent someone from passing you
- Ignore and never return inappropriate gestures
- Make every attempt to get safely out of an aggressive driver's way

- Lock your doors and keep your windows only partly open

### **If followed by an aggressive driver you should...**

- Drive to the nearest police station, hospital or busy area
- Report an aggressive driver by calling 911
- Leave enough space to pull out from behind the car in front of you at a stop sign

**Don't let aggressive driving break you,**

**Keep your cool and enjoy the ride.**

**Typical behaviors of an Aggressive Driver... are you one?**

### ***TAKE THE TEST!***

**Do You...**

1. Tailgate when you're in a hurry?
2. Use your horn excessively?
3. Speed?
4. Block the Passing lane?
5. Lane weave?
6. Run stop signs or red lights?
7. Unnecessarily use high beams?
8. Make inappropriate hand or facial gestures?
9. Pass on the shoulder?
10. Double park?
11. Fail to use your turn signals when changing lanes?

**If you answered yes to most or all of these questions you have developed some aggressive driving habits that could lead to an incident of *ROAD RAGE***

To obtain multiple copies of  
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