

kcConnections



A publication of MoDOT Kansas City District

June 25-29, 2012

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KC District Calendar:

June 27

Management Team
9 - 11:30 a.m.
District Office Boardroom

June 29

Quarterly Supervisors Meeting
Garozzo's, 9 a.m. to noon

June 29

North Area Team Meeting
District Office Room 136
12:30 - 3 p.m.

July 4

Independence Day
State Offices Closed

Have a Great Week!

Jackpot!

Maintaining a safe work environment and going home safely to your family each day makes everyone a winner. Encouraging our maintenance, traffic, motorist assist and general services employees to continue making safe choices and rewarding them for excellence in regard to safety adds incentive to continuing already safe behavior. MoDOT is implementing the Safety Jackpot Program as an additional way to encourage employees to strive for zero loss time incidents.

Beginning July 1, those safety sensitive employees in the designated departments will begin reaping the benefits for keeping a safe work record through the Safety Jackpot Program. Replacing safety pays, this new program will allow employees who meet the established program criteria the opportunity to earn game cards containing points. Points are accumulated in increments of 25, 50, 75 or 100, and can be saved and redeemed for prizes in the Safety Jackpot rewards catalog. To view the catalog online visit http://www.safetyjackpot.com/Catalog12/rewards_catalog12-13.pdf.

In addition to points, employees can also spell the word JACKPOT by collecting enough cards. Each quarter, Safety Jackpot randomly selects three names from nationwide participants that spell JACKPOT or scratch an ENTRY card. Each of these individuals will participate in the quarterly \$10,000 bag-grab drawings (worth \$500 to \$10,000). All JACKPOT spellers and ENTRY card recipients will also be included in a year-end drawing for a trip to Las Vegas and a year-end drawing for the \$1 Million PowerBag (worth \$1,000 to \$1 Million). Feel free to



swap your letters with coworkers to spell out JACKPOT.

So, who earns a game card?

All KC District maintenance, motorist assist, equipment technician, and facility operations/maintenance job titles pay grades 16 and below will have the opportunity to earn a game card. At this time, not all safety sensitive employees can participate. This new safety incentive program is being implemented with limited funding. By focusing on the jobs/areas with the highest injury rates, MoDOT is hoping to see a reduction in incidents and injuries. If proven successful, this program could expand to include other safety sensitive job titles in the future.

What are the program criteria to earn a card? Employees must have worked a minimum of one 8-hour shift per week, and had no disqualifications. The

Continued on next page

Jackpot continued from first page

following will disqualify employees for a weekly card.

- Injury requiring medical attention away from work
- Lost time incidents – no cards until employee returns to work
- Incidents that caused injury to another person
- Any “at fault” fleet vehicle incident
- Any safety violations including verbal, coaching and counseling and reminders
- Failing to report “close call” incidents as required
- Employees exhibiting any unsafe behaviors including horseplay

Specific documentation shall be made and maintained by the employee’s supervisor as to the reasons that a weekly card was withheld.

Employees who exhibit exceptional behavior can earn bonus cards. Only one bonus card is allowed per employee

each week, and only employees going “above and beyond” the call of duty may receive an additional card. Examples that earn employees additional cards could include but are not limited to taking extra precautions to increase the safety of all, innovations that improve safety, volunteering to participate on safety teams, conduct safety training, conduct “morning muster” discussions etc., or acts that may warrant Meritorious or Certificate of Appreciation awards.

Any employee that witnesses another employee exhibiting safe behaviors, going above and beyond the call duty may recommend that employee for a bonus card by notifying the employee’s immediate supervisor and documenting the behaviors that were witnessed. The immediate supervisor will make any final determinations with regard to any card distribution.

Why did MoDOT choose the Safety Jackpot? Encouraging employees

to continue safe behavior benefits everyone. The Safety Jackpot is one more way to increase safe acts and differs from other traditional incentive programs because:

- Everyone Wins. Successful incentive programs reward everyone who achieves the established goals.
- Rewards are Frequent. Weekly rewards keep safety at the forefront.
- Encourages Interaction. JACKPOT letters are traded by co-workers for more chances to win.
- Easy to Administer. The only thing you do is hand out the game cards. The employees track their points, redeem for prizes.

And now with the safety jackpot, safety sensitive employees can earn prizes for doing what they already do. Keeping safety in the forefront.

WAYS TO WIN!
Safety JACKPOT PROGRAM
INSTANT WINNER
0 7 5
WIN UP TO 100 PRIZE POINTS
JACKPOT WINNER!
SPELL J•A•C•K•P•O•T
WIN 1,000 PRIZE POINTS
COLLECT ALL SEVEN LETTERS AND WIN!

MoDOT

Safety JACKPOT
PLAY AND WIN!

THE 'POWER-BAG'
IMAGINE
THE POSSIBILITIES!

**STAY SAFE
PLAY THE GAME
WIN BIG!**

MoDOT

TWO WAYS TO WIN!
Safety JACKPOT PROGRAM
INSTANT WINNER
0 2 5
WIN UP TO 100 PRIZE POINTS
JACKPOT WINNER!
SPELL J•A•C•K•P•O•T
WIN 1,000 PRIZE POINTS
COLLECT ALL SEVEN LETTERS AND WIN!

\$1 MILLION POWER-BAG

- 1 SPELL 'JACKPOT' or SCRATCH 'ENTRY!'.
- 2 SEND IN YOUR COLLECTOR CARD TO BE ENTERED INTO THE DRAWING.
- 3 WINNER MATCHES 2 OF 25 MONEY-BAGS.
- 4 ALL BAGS HAVE CASH, TWO HAVE JACKPOT AMOUNT.

Calling All Volunteers

Wanna Join the Snow Fight?

It's not snow season, yet. But it will be here before you know it. The district needs your help. If you are not a safety sensitive employee and would like to help the district with the snow fight this coming winter season, please let Chris Redline know by calling 607-2283 or email him at christopher.redline@modot.mo.gov. MoDOT will provide all the training and practice you need to be successful. Anyone interested should let Chris know by Friday, June 29.

Volunteers Needed for KC Day at the Missouri State Fair

August is just around the corner, and MoDOT's Kansas City District needs six volunteers to spend a day in Sedalia at the Missouri State Fair.

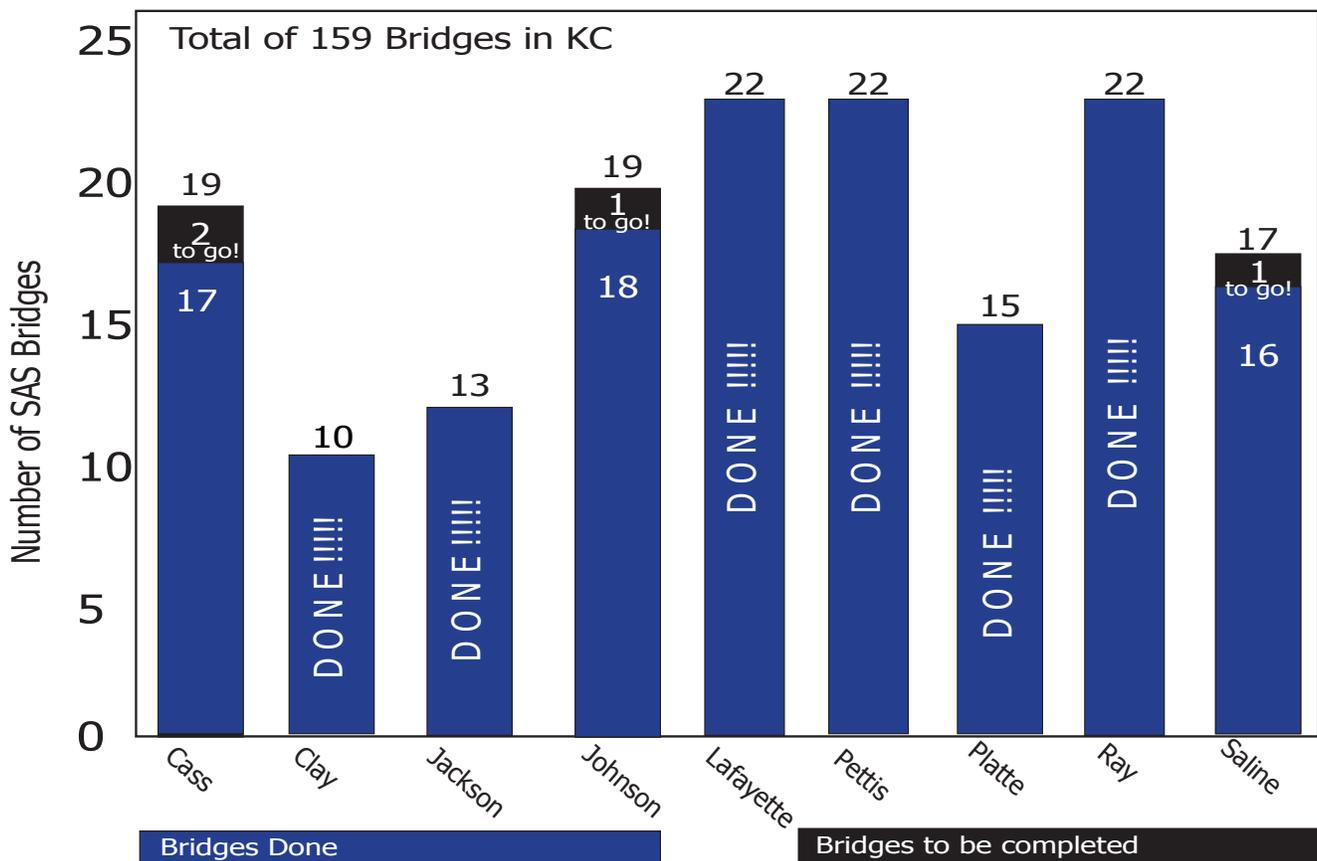
This year, KC's team will be representing MoDOT on Friday, August 17. If you would like to put your name in the hat to be picked as one of the six volunteers, first get your supervisor's approval, then send in your name to Kerri Lewis. Names will be selected at random. You have until 3 p.m. Friday, June 29, to volunteer.

KC Motorist Assist's team will also spend the day meeting fairgoers and showing off some of their equipment. Volunteers will find time to look around and enjoy some of the displays, while also acting as MoDOT ambassadors, handing out informational brochures and giveaways.

The Missouri State Fair this year runs August 9-19. There is a rodeo Thursday, August 16. The concert this year will be 7:30 p.m. August 11 and feature Montgomery Gentry and 38 Special.

For more information on the Missouri State Fair, go to <http://www.mostatefair.com>.

KC Safe & Sound Bridges On the Rise to Completion



Ribbon Cuttings across the District

A new roundabout was recently constructed at the corner of Route N and 136th Street just south of Platte City. This new roundabout was built through a cost share with MoDOT, Platte County and the Platte City Special Roads District.

A ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday, June 15 celebrated the completion of this \$974,000 project more than one month ahead of schedule. This new roundabout will improve safety and efficiency at this intersection for the more than 3,000 motorists passing through the area daily.

Those cutting the ribbon with MoDOT included representatives from the contractor, Leavenworth Excavating & Equipment Company, Inc (LEXECO), Clay County officials, and law enforcement.



Route N bridge over Walnut Creek in southeast Cass County opened June 15. Preceding the opening, workers with general contractor KTU Constructors, subcontractors Phillips Grading and Drew, joined (left to right) MoDOT Area Engineer Matt Killion and State Representatives Scott Largent (120th District) and Rick Brattin (124th District) on the bridge deck to cut the ribbon on the new bridge. It replaces a 112-year-old structure that had been reduced to one lane only.

The bridge is the third of five MoDOT Safe & Sound bridges to open in Cass County this year. Route E Bridge over Crawford Creek in Strasburg will open late next week, weather permitting. In all, 145 bridges will have been replaced or redecked in MoDOT's Kansas City District over the past four years once the Safe & Sound Bridge Improvement Program concludes later this year.



Above: Kissick Construction Co. workers remove falsework from the Route E bridge over Crawford Creek in Strasburg on Wednesday, just before a ribbon-cutting ceremony.



Right: Maintenance Supervisor Randy Newkirk, SAS Coordinator Dolon Silimon, Strasburg School Board President John Cantrell, Strasburg School Superintendent Larry Arnone, Kissick Construction Superintendent Charlie Fuller, and Senior Construction Inspector Tom Evans prepare to cut the ribbon on the Route E bridge over Crawford Creek in Strasburg June 20. In the background, an asphalt truck is delivering a load as workers complete the approaches. Concrete bridge walls were already drilled for guard rail. The bridge was on schedule to open early next week.

New Commuter Lot

The Saline County Maintenance forces worked with Area Engineer Mike McGrath and Senator Stouffer to create an additional location for commuters to park and ride in a rural location of the Kansas City District. Thanks to their efforts, a new commuter parking lot is available for motorists near the intersection of Route 65 and Route H.

This location offers ten parking spots within a gravel parking lot.



KC KUDOS

The new construction at I-70 and I-435 has been in operation several months now, and, in my opinion, it is functioning remarkably well. I wish to offer my congratulations to you and the engineers who designed these changes. I was living here when I-70 was being built and have lived with the traffic situation in Kansas City and Independence since then. Please pat yourselves on the back for a job well done!

D. Potts, MD
Independence

Just want to compliment the workers on a very good work zone and good job on the 69 Highway bridges between Excelsior Springs and Liberty. The alternate roadways were very good and the work has been completed in a timely manner. Thank you! I was impressed with the way they made the two way pass through. It was well thought out and has worked out well. Thanks again on a job well done.

L. Buhrmester

Great work on Route 69 Bridges!

Captain Stephen C. Wright, SPHR
Office of the Clay County Missouri Sheriff's Office

I drive over the Route 69 bridges several times a day. You guys seriously rock!! Thanks to everyone at MoDOT for everything you're doing.

With best regards,
Lutz Mueller
Clay County

KC Rises to the TOP!

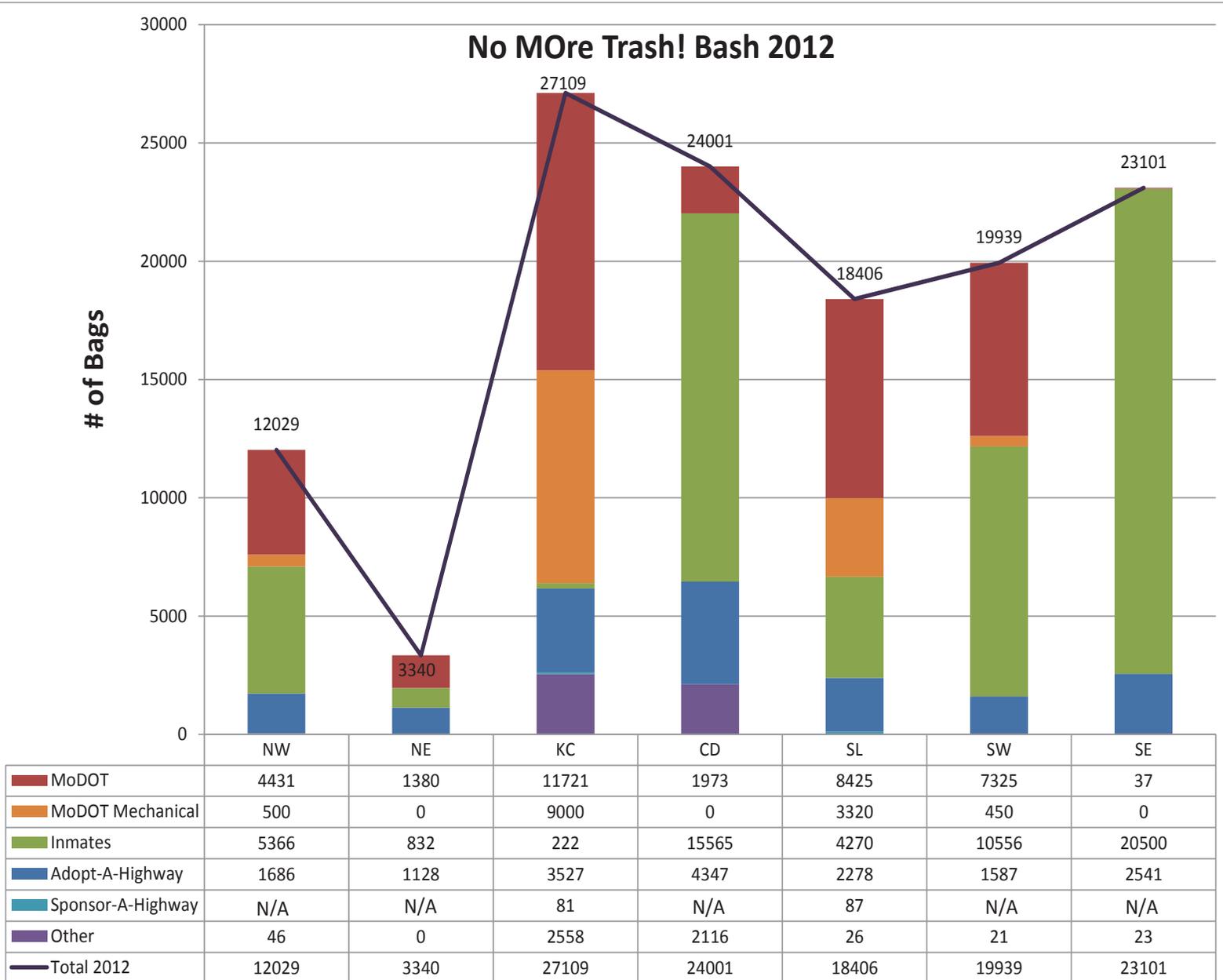
No MOre Trash! Bash Numbers are in

A joint effort across the district in response to the No MOre Trash! Bash in April proved a H-U-G-E success for the Kansas City District. The numbers indicate Kansas City has collected the most bags of trash, beating out all other districts. In fact, our maintenance forces and district office volunteers collected 27,109 bags of trash, 9,000 more than the second place winner.

This would not have been possible without the help of all maintenance personnel. Your continued efforts made the district shine and are appreciated greatly.

Did you know that Kansas City led the state in several areas? The district is the overall trash bash winner, was the leader for trash picked up by MoDOT forces, the leader for trash picked up by mechanical devices such as litter pickers, sweepers, and the gator getter, and our district lead the state by the most trash picked up by others.

Hats off to all that participated in this year's bash. Congratulations to Kansas City for keeping our roads free of trash.





Safety 24/7



June 24-30

Did you know?

NSC estimates almost 25% of crashes involve cell phone use while driving. (NSC Attributable Risk Estimate)

Research has shown that children are more likely to wear safety belts or use child safety seats when the parent (adult driver) buckles up.

Drivers and front seat passengers who buckle up are 45% more likely to survive motor vehicle crashes and 50% more likely to avoid serious injuries. (NHTSA)

In 2009, 32% of all fatalities in motor vehicle crashes involved a driver under the influence of alcohol. (NHTSA)

Driving Safety

Driving is one of the most dangerous activities you will do each day. As traffic on the roads increases during the summer months, keep in mind the safety tips below to stay safe when driving for work or pleasure.

Cell Phone Distracted Driving

Cell phone use while driving isn't just a visual and manual distraction, but a cognitive distraction – taking your mind off the primary task of driving. That is why hands-free devices offer no safety benefit as your brain is distracted by the conversation. When driving:

- Refrain from using your cell phone
- Put your cell phone on silent or in the glove box to avoid temptation
- Safely pull over and put the vehicle in Park to take or make a call
- Change your voicemail message to say you are unavailable when driving

Safety Belt Use

Safety belts are one of the most effective safety devices in your vehicle. Safety belts can determine who will walk away from a crash and who will not.

- Always wear a safety belt – every trip, every time
- Make sure every passenger is wearing his or her safety belt before you begin your drive
- Children should sit in the back and use the proper child safety seat or booster seat

Impaired Driving

Impaired driving simply means a person's ability to safely operate a motor vehicle is compromised by alcohol and other drugs that change the function of the brain and body.

- If you plan on drinking, designate a non-drinking driver for the evening
- Never get in the car with an intoxicated driver – take keys away from someone who has been drinking
- If you have been drinking and need to get home, call a friend or taxi or take public transportation

Aggressive Driving

Aggressive driving behaviors can include speeding, frequent and unnecessary lane changes, tailgating and running red or yellow lights. These behaviors create unsafe situations and can lead to road rage. To avoid aggressive driving:

- Keep your emotions in check and don't take frustrations out on other drivers
- Plan ahead and allow enough time for delays
- Focus on your own driving
- Don't tailgate or flash your lights at another driver
- Use your horn sparingly

Remember, we all share the roads so take the necessary steps to keep yourself and others safe.

NATIONAL SAFETY MONTH 2012

National Safety Council
1121 SPRING LAKE DRIVE
ITASCA, IL 60143-3201
(800) 621-7619
NSC.ORG

Call Report System Has Additional Features

On June 26, customer service representatives will begin using a new web-based call reporting system to track concerns and compliments from our customers. Most of the changes will not be noticed by end users, but customer service will enjoy several additions to make the call reporting process quicker and simpler.

For those who receive call reports, you can now receive them via a text message on your phone. Just notify Customer Relations if you would like to have this feature added. Also, for those who have a MoDOT-issued smart phone, you will be able to open, complete and close the call report on your phone.

Please let Customer Relations know if you have suggestions for this new reporting system.

Solutions at Work



Tom Evans, Senior Construction Inspector was honored for his recent innovation. He developed the flashing light bar that will be mounted atop arrow boards on MoDOT trucks to alert approaching motorists sooner that there is a slow-moving work zone ahead in their lane.

Evans said a fatal collision, and a pattern of several hits a year spurred him to look for something better than the traditional arrow board.

kcConnections sources

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Find MoDOT KC on Twitter, Facebook and Youtube.

Bolder Five-Year Direction Calendar

2012

- **December 31:** all facility, equipment and operational changes complete.

2013

- **March 31:** all employee reassignments, staff reductions complete.

Bolder 5-Year Direction Questions?

- Visit: wwwi/intranet/hr/
- Contact your KC District HR representative