## Training on Defensive Driving and Vehicle Safety

## Are you a Safe Driver?

A safe driver is a defensive driver. A safe driver seems to have eyes (or mirrors) in the back of their head! They stay out of the other person's way. They expect the unexpected. And they react in plenty of time.

## The Safe Driver:

- 1. Knows and obeys the company rules for the operation of motor vehicles, both personal and company vehicles
- 2. Wears a safety belt and requires all passengers to wear their safety belt, too
- 3. Avoids using a cell phone or two-way radio while the vehicle is in motion
- 4. Knows and obeys the traffic rules and regulations applicable to the area in which they are driving
- 5. Is aware of the traffic situations far ahead on both sides and to the rear of their vehicle
- 6. Is constantly alert to illegal acts and errors of others, and poised to respond to protect themselves
- 7. Plays the "What if?" game: What if the car in front stops suddenly? What if I have to take evasive action? Where is my run off area? What if someone pulls out in front of me?
- 8. Is willing to yield the right-of-way to prevent accidents
- 9. Does not tailgate; instead, maintains two seconds of distance between them and the car ahead
- 10. Is particularly cautious approaching intersections; lessens the odds of an accident by taking their foot off the gas and covering the brake to shorten reaction time for stopping
- 11. Knows and adjusts driving to the special hazards of:
  - Pedestrians
  - The road
  - Weather
  - Traffic
  - Degree of light, and
  - The added dangers brought on by their own emotions such as anger & worry.
- 12. Requires an ATTITUDE of confidence that they can drive without ever having an accident
- 13. Requires being POSITIVE about accident prevention
- 14. Drives as though every child in the street is his or her own child, and every motorist on the road is a dear friend or close relative
- 15. Knows the secret of safe driving: DO IT THE SAFE WAY EVERY TIME

