

# TRAFFIC NEWSLETTER

DMV Administrator's Office 1905 Lana Avenue NE Salem, Oregon 97314

Vol. 17 No. 3 July 2006

**HOUSE BILL 2840 SCHOOL ZONE SPEED LIMITS**• HB 2840, passed in the 2005 Legislative Session, requires a 20 mph speed between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. on days when school is in session and when school zone lights are flashing on roads and streets adjacent to schools. The bill also addresses school zones on roadways that are not adjacent to a school by requiring a 20 mph speed when a flashing light is in operation or "when children are present" as defined in ORS 811.124.

This law is effective July 1, 2006. Any necessary sign changes are to be made between July 1 and the beginning of the 2006-07 school year. Some flashing yellow light systems will be installed throughout the state.

After July 1, 2006, DMV will post convictions using the current process and conviction literal for speeding in a school zone (V SP SCH ZN).

The courts must forward notification to DMV that an offender has been convicted under ORS 811.111 when the offense was speeding in a school zone.

For more information, please call (503) 945-5000 or (503) 299-9999 (Portland Metro Area).

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**CHANGE IN DISABLED VETERAN PLATES**• Effective Sept. 20, 2006, the look of disabled veteran registration plates is changing. Today these plates are issued on a yellow background with blue lettering. Beginning in September, DMV will start issuing disabled veteran plates on the regular "tree" plate background. Because of size and readability issues, disabled veteran plates issued to motorcycles and mopeds will not change. The yellow background plate will continue to be used for motorcycle and moped disabled veteran plates.

DMV will re-design the plate configuration to fit the tree background. The "D" will be smaller and moved to the upper left side of the plate, with the first number printed directly beneath the "D". The other numbers will be printed on both sides of the tree (two on each side) with the word "permanent" across the bottom and "veteran" down the right side. This configuration will be similar to the National Guard plate. The new series will start with D18001.

This change is being made because some veterans consider the yellow background offensive or undignified. In an effort to address this issue, DMV looked at the possibility of changing the disabled veteran plate design. DMV does not have statutory authority to create a new graphic design for the background. However, the agency does have the authority to issue the plate on the tree background, which is currently used as the regular issuance plate on most vehicles.

All previously issued disabled veteran plates will remain valid and can be transferred.

For additional information, if you are in the Salem area, please call (503) 945-5000 or Portland Metro Area (503) 299-9999, or call your local DMV field office. You may also visit the DMV website at <http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/DMV>.

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**VEHICLE CODE BOOKS**• The 2005-2006 Oregon Vehicle Code Book is now available for \$5 per copy. The fee covers the cost of compiling, publishing, and distributing the books.

Format - The books are approximately 5 ½ by 8 ½ inches in size, and are available in both a bound and loose-leaf version. There are a limited number of loose-leaf (notebook style) books available. The loose-leaf format requires a three ring binder, which is not provided by DMV. Requests for loose-leaf books will be filled on a first-come first-served basis until the supply has been exhausted. If there are no loose-leaf books available, requests will be filled with the bound version of the book.

To purchase copies of the book, send your written request, with a check or money order, to:

DMV - Record Services  
1905 Lana Ave NE  
Salem, OR 97314

Include the complete name and street address where you want the books shipped. Due to their size, the books cannot be delivered to a P.O. Box. If the books need to come to a particular person's attention, please include that information in your request. Also indicate the number of books you are requesting, as well as the format (see above). A phone number and contact person are also recommended in case there are questions about your request. You must send a check or money order with your request, as DMV is unable to process requests without proper payment. DMV cannot accept purchase orders, record inquiry account numbers or debit/credit cards. If you have questions, please contact DMV Customer Assistance at (503) 945-5000.

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**SENATE BILL 640 AND THE REAL ID ACT**• DMV has posted a set of fact sheets and frequently asked questions about Senate Bill 640 and the Real ID Act on its Internet home page at [www.OregonDMV.com](http://www.OregonDMV.com).

SB 640, passed by the 2005 Oregon Legislature, gives DMV until mid-2008 to implement facial-recognition software into its driver license and identification card procedures. DMV plans to start issuing driver licenses and ID cards from a central location during 2007.

The Real ID Act, passed by Congress and signed by President Bush in May 2005, establishes national standards for driver licenses and ID cards. States have until May 2008 to comply. After federal regulations are issued, the Legislature must decide if Oregon will comply.

The FAQ and fact sheets provide details on the implementation of SB 640 and what is known at this time about the requirements for the Real ID Act.

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