



NSCN file photo

Street Survival teaches daily driving skills to kids, parents

NSCN STAFF

Street Survival isn't just about driving, it's about saving lives!

The leading cause of death among 13- to 19-year-olds in the U.S. is from a motor vehicle crash.

62 percent of teenage passenger deaths in 2004 occurred in vehicles driven by another teenager.

Teenagers cause 2.5 million accidents per year.

In 2007, that resulted in more than 6,000 deaths of teens.

The Northwest Region will host its second Street Survival class on **March 21 for teens (ages 16-21)** and **March 22 for adults** at Bremerton Motorsports Park.

If you have a teen driver at home or know someone who does, then those sobering statistics should be of concern. Recent and well-publicized national stories have brought to light the tragedy of teen injury and death

caused by traffic accidents. The stories often mention how the teen driver lost control and over-corrected causing a tragic accident of some kind.

Your local media most likely has reported on a similar story in the not-to-distant past, or you may know of a teen involved in such circumstances.

To address this national issue, The Tire Rack Street Survival teen driving schools were developed by the BMW Car Club of America and the BMW CCA Foundation in 2002. The programs have expanded to most major communities and are now conducted as well by the Sports Car Club of America regions with support from the SCCA Foundation.

The registration fee of \$60, which covers only the cost of materials and equipment, provides students with experienced instructors who safely guide students through a day of behind the wheel instruction and short

classroom sessions. Driving skill courses are specifically designed to mimic everyday driving hazards, obstacles and challenges. Students will use the vehicles the student driver is most familiar with, which is usually their family or personal car, truck or SUV.

Parents are urged to talk to their teen drivers about the advantages of attending this one-day program. Eligible students are 16 to 21 years old and hold a valid unrestricted driver's license or a valid permit. Students should have some driving experience and parents should make plans to attend the programs along with their teens. Parents are encouraged to register their teen drivers for this program [online](http://www.streetsurvival.org) at www.streetsurvival.org.

For more local information contact Sherri Masterson at 360-479-6082 or sherri.masterson@gmail.com.