

TxLTAP September Newsletter

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TxLTAP/PWI Upcoming Training Opportunities

Advanced Road Inspector Program

We're gearing up for another round of the **Advanced Road Inspector Program**, starting **this fall**—and registration is now open!

Whether you're new to inspection or ready to expand your expertise, this series offers the skills, knowledge, and hands-on training you need to ensure top-quality roadway construction and maintenance.



Across the ARI courses, you'll be immersed in the full spectrum of materials and methods involved in road building—covering **asphalt paving, concrete work, drainage systems, road markings, and signage installation**. Designed to create highly skilled inspectors, each session combines technical insight with practical applications, enabling you to evaluate construction projects with confidence and precision.

The results are in—and the feedback is overwhelmingly positive!

- "Great class and great teacher."
- "Very good instructor."
- "Great class! Great instructor!"
- "Great class, very knowledgeable."

Whether taken individually or as a complete series, the ARI program provides a career-building education with real-world impact. **Seats are limited**, so mark your calendar and get ready to secure your spot for this high-demand training. See below for registration details!

ARI481 ~ Advanced Inspection Skills ~ September 16-18, 2025, UTA EEC, \$1295

ARI482 ~ Inspecting Soils, Flex Base, and Subgrades ~ October 14, 2025, UTA EEC, \$495

ARI483 ~ Inspecting Asphalt Surface Treatments and Hot-Mix ~ October 15-16, 2025, UTA EEC, \$845

ARI484 ~ Inspecting Bridges and Concrete Pavement ~ November 11-13, 2025, UTA EEC, \$1195

ARI485 ~ Inspecting Drainage, Excavation, and Backfill ~ December 9, 2025, UTA EEC, \$495

ARI486 ~ Inspecting Permanent Safety Devices ~ December 10-11, 2025, UTA EEC, \$855



Entry Level Driver Training - October

Through the TxLTAP grant, Texas city and county employees can take advantage of Entry-Level Driver Training at *no cost*—helping agencies meet FMCSA requirements while building safer, more skilled drivers.

Our LTP801 – **Behind-the-Wheel** course delivers hands-on training to develop the practical skills needed to operate a commercial vehicle safely and confidently. Attendees must possess a **valid CDL** for

a minimum of 2 years prior to the day of the class.

LTP802 – Knowledge, classroom-based instruction covering safety regulations, vehicle operation, and essential professional driving principles. **Attendees must pass this course with an 80% or higher to be eligible to take the state exam.**

Seats are limited—register today and give your team the skills to keep Texas moving safely.

LTP801 – Behind-the-Wheel, October 14, 2025, UTA EEC

LTP802 – Knowledge, October 15, 2025, UTA EEC

OSHA Safety Courses Available Now

TxLTAP training goes far beyond the standard Work Zone Traffic Control and Qualified Flagger courses. Through collaboration between TxLTAP, the Public Works Institute (PWI), and the UTA Extended and Extended Campus OSHA Training Institute, we've merged three of our safety courses to provide participants with OSHA Certificates of Completion.

These 8-hour courses - **OSHA 7300 – Understanding OSHA's Permit-Required Confined Space Standard**, **OSHA 7405 – Fall Hazard Awareness**, and **OSHA 7410 – Managing Excavation**



and Trenching Operations, will continue to be offered at no cost to Texas cities and counties through our grant funding.

This partnership ensures public works employees earn industry-recognized credentials while gaining critical safety skills that protect workers and communities alike.

**Request Your Team's Updated Training
Today!**

Featured Articles



College and Young Adult Impaired Driving



Drive Sober. No Regrets.

It's that time of year again. As school starts back, TxDOT's Drive Sober. No Regrets. campaign that emphasizes that "even one drink is too many"—especially for college-aged drivers—is relevant again! This campaign urges students to always find a sober ride instead of risking a DWI, which carries steep legal and personal consequences.

The initiative encourages students to look out for one another and offers tools like SoberRides.org for planning safe travel home. As TxDOT notes, choosing a rideshare or designated driver may cost money, but it's far less costly than a DWI—or worse, a life-altering crash.

txdot.gov

Concussion Awareness Day September 19 - Do You Know the Signs of a Concussion?

Workplace concussions—commonly dismissed as "just a bump"—are actually more common than most people realize, and the consequences can be both hidden and serious.

Workplace Concussions: How Common

Are They?

- One in four adult concussions happens at work. These injuries are often overlooked despite occurring across all job types.
- In Kentucky (2011), the work-related concussion rate was 31.8 per 100,000 employed individuals, with men significantly more affected than women.
- The construction industry faces especially elevated risks: falls, being struck by objects, and vehicle collisions lead to the highest number of traumatic brain injuries (TBIs), including concussions. From 2003 to 2010, 2,210 construction worker deaths in the U.S. were due to TBI—a staggering 25% of all construction fatalities.



Why They're So Easy to Overlook

Concussions don't always come with dramatic symptoms like unconsciousness. They can:

- Result from minor impacts or even body jolts without any head contact
- Start with delayed symptoms that may not show up for minutes, hours, or even days
- Be "invisible" injuries, making them harder to detect and easy to dismiss

Do You Know the Signs?

Watch for these concussion symptoms across four broad categories:

Physical

- Headache or pressure in the head
- Dizziness, feeling dazed or stunned
- Ringing in the ears, blurred vision, or flashing lights
- Nausea, vomiting, poor coordination, slurred speech, sleep changes, sensitivity to light or sound



Cognitive

- Confusion, poor concentration, difficulty following directions
- Slowed responses or reduced participation

Emotional

- Irritability, anxiety, sadness
- Odd emotional responses like inappropriate laughter or tears

Sleep-Related

- Sleeping more or less than usual, struggling with sleep

Red Flag Symptoms (Emergency—seek immediate medical attention)

- Seizures or convulsions
- Worsening headache or repeated vomiting

- Loss of consciousness or difficulty waking
- Double vision, trouble recognizing people/places
- Weakness, tingling, slurred speech, agitation, neck stiffness

The Real Risks and Why Awareness Matters

- Concussions can lead to lingering symptoms in 10–15% of cases, evolving into post-concussion syndrome (PCS), with effects lasting weeks or even months.
- One study noted that while 91% of workers returned to work in under 90 days, 41% still reported persistent symptoms during that time.
- The financial cost is also significant—OSHA estimates direct costs of approximately \$60,770, and indirect costs around \$66,847 per concussion incident.
- Symptoms like fatigue, concentration issues, and emotional changes can reduce productivity and make return-to-work challenging.

What Can You Do?

1. Take any head injury seriously, no matter how mild it seems. Encourage employees to report even minor incidents immediately.
2. Train supervisors and staff to recognize symptoms—especially the subtle or delayed ones—and to respond with appropriate medical evaluation.
3. Implement safety and prevention measures, especially in high-risk industries like construction and transportation—use helmets, eliminate fall hazards, control access, and enforce safe practices.
4. Support recovery with accommodations—adjust lighting, reduce noise, allow flexible hours, and reduce cognitive load during recovery.

Being alert to the signs—and responding swiftly—can prevent complications, support recovery, and safeguard both employee well-being and workplace productivity. Let's stay informed, stay safe, and keep our workplaces concussion-aware.

[TBI in the Workplace Facts | Traumatic Brain Injury & Concussion | CDC](#)
[Workers and Workplaces — Concussion Alliance](#)
[Microsoft PowerPoint - Concussion Hazard Assess 2023 feb 7](#)
[workplace-concussions-focus-sheet.pdf](#)

**National Concussion Awareness
Day**



Tailgate Talks

Designed for field supervisors to discuss with their workers,



EDC7

Every Day Counts (EDC) is an FHWA initiative that promotes innovation in transportation by

Tailgate Talks cover a wide variety of safety topics. Below are some resources to help you bring Tailgate Talks to your team. Be sure to check back for a new Tailgate Talk topic every month.

[View Topics](#)

partnering with public and private stakeholders. Every two years, it identifies new technologies and practices for widespread adoption across the industry.

[Learn More about EDC7](#)

National Association of County Engineers 2026 conference coming to Arlington April 12-15, 2026!

Join NACE at the heart of Texas for the National Association of County Engineers' premier event of the year, at the **Loews in Arlington**. This conference is your opportunity to:



- Connect with county engineers, road managers, and industry partners from across the nation
- Learn from expert-led technical sessions, workshops, and focused discussions on the future of county infrastructure
- Explore innovative solutions and technologies showcased in our interactive exhibit area
- Advance your leadership and professional development through diverse networking and knowledge-sharing opportunities

Mark your calendar and stay tuned for updates on speakers, sessions, and special events.

Mark your calendar! **Critical Dates:**

August 22- Deadline for submissions for technical program

September 22- Conference Website Launch

October 14- Pre-sale for NACE Corporate Members for Exhibits and Sponsorship

October 21- Pre-sale for TACERA Exhibitors (while onsite in Waco)

November 3- Delegate Registration and ALL Exhibitor Registration Opens

December 15- Housing Opens (published cut-off date is March 13)

**NACE 2026 Annual Conference
Information**

TxLTAP October Conference Schedule

This October, TxLTAP will be on the road attending key industry events and conferences, connecting with public



works professionals, sharing resources, and promoting training opportunities across Texas. Stop by, say hello, and grab some swag!

Texas Municipal League Annual Conference (TML)

The 113th Annual Texas Municipal League (TML) Conference & Exhibition will take place **October 29–31, 2025**, at the Fort Worth Convention Center. Attendees can expect in-depth sessions on legislative updates, leadership strategies, emergency management, finance, legal guidance, planning, and water security, along with a robust exhibit hall featuring hundreds of vendors showcasing innovative solutions for municipal operations.



West Texas Rural Counties Association Annual Conference



This year's West Texas Rural Counties Association Conference is set for **October 22–23, 2025**, taking place at the MCM Elegante Hotel in Abilene, Texas. Attendees can look forward to a robust professional development experience, with 16 hours of continuing education credit requested and pending approval. This event is a key opportunity for county officials across West Texas to engage with timely topics, trusted speakers, and peer networking in a focused, two-day format.

Annual County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas Educational Conference (CJCAT)

The 103rd Annual County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas Conference is scheduled for **October 6–9, 2025**, at the Galveston Island Convention Center, with registration already underway. Hosted by the Galveston County Commissioners Court and co-sponsored by the V.G. Young Institute of County Government.



Texas Association of County Engineers and Road Administrators (TACERA)

TACERA will host its 2025 Fall Conference at the Waco Convention Center from **October 21–October 23, 2025**. TACERA's annual event brings together county engineers, road administrators, public works professionals, and

their teams for peer exchange, professional development, and continuing education credits (CEUs).



More from TxLTAP

Road Safety Champion Program Fall Dates Coming Soon!

The Road Safety Champion Program (RSCP) is a nationally recognized training series that equips public works and transportation personnel with the skills to improve roadway safety. It promotes a safety-first mindset through core and specialized courses aimed at reducing serious injuries and fatalities.



Session Two will be coming soon, offering Texas city and county employees another opportunity to continue or begin their journey toward becoming a certified Road Safety Champion. Stay informed on upcoming details and be ready to take the next step in promoting safer roads across Texas.

Stay up to Date: [TxLTAP - Training - Road Safety Champion](#)



We Want to Hear from You!

Has your city or county participated in TxLTAP training? We'd love to hear how it made a difference in your team's work, safety practices, or community outcomes.

Whether it's a success story, noticeable improvements, or even a local spotlight you'd like to share—let us know! Reach out to txltap@uta.edu, we may feature your story in an upcoming newsletter!

Thank you!



Thank you for staying connected with TxLTAP! Every effort in training and awareness brings us closer to a safer Texas.

Get in Contact with TxLTAP

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