

# Memorial Day holiday safety message from Gen. Cone



REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY TRAINING AND DOCTRINE COMMAND  
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ATCS-S

20 MAY 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR TRADOC Leaders, Trainers, Soldiers, Employees, and Family Members

SUBJECT: Memorial Day Holiday Safety Message

1. On Memorial Day, we honor and remember those brave men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our Nation and our allies. This is a time of reflection and a time to remember the sacrifices of those who have served, and those who still serve today. Thank you for your service.
2. Memorial Day also marks the unofficial start of the summer period that runs until the Labor Day weekend. Unfortunately, past experience shows Memorial Day weekend is a period of increased risk for Soldiers. Accidental deaths and serious injuries, often a result of excessive alcohol consumption or the unsafe operation of cars, trucks, motorcycles, boats, or other recreational vehicles, have turned this holiday into one of tragedy and regret.
3. As we prepare for the coming holiday weekend, we must reach out to every Soldier and civilian employee. Remind each other that travel, recreation, or simply working around the house carries inherent risk. A moment's pause to consider the hazards can go a long way toward preventing the next accident. We are all sensitive to the risks associated with excessive alcohol consumption, water sports, and motorcycle or automobile operations, but we often fail to consider the less obvious but equally dangerous impacts of fatigue and complacency.
4. I would like every commander, leader, and supervisor to take a moment before this coming holiday to talk to our Soldiers and civilian employees about holiday safety. We wouldn't think about leaving a fallen comrade; let's not miss this opportunity to stop the next accident. I hope you all enjoy a safe Memorial Day holiday weekend, and I thank you for your service and all you do for our Army and our Nation.
5. Safety Starts Here! Victory Starts Here!

  
ROBERT W. CONE  
General, U.S. Army  
Commanding

U.S. Army War College Archives - News Article - 23 May 2013