

Stunt Driving

Beginning October 1st 2007, Ontario introduced a tough new law aimed at aggressive drivers. The Safer Roads for Ontario Act was enacted which saw some amendments to the Highway Traffic Act including Section 172.

It is commonly known that if a driver is caught racing in a contest or driving in excess of 50 km/h over the posted speed limit that they will be charged with Stunt Driving. Once a driver is charged with this offence, their vehicle will automatically be impounded for a period of no less than 7 days and their driver's licence will be suspended on the spot for a period of no less than 7 days.

However, did you know that Section 172 also covers some other driving habits which could lead to the same result? Many motorists are not aware of some of the following consequences:

- ? Doing ?wheelies? on a motorcycle = stunt driving
- ? Doing ?burnouts? or ?smoking the tires? = stunt driving
- ? Driving while not in the driver's seat = stunt driving
- ? Putting a person in the trunk = stunt driving
- ? Preventing a vehicle from passing = stunt driving
- ? Slowing down to intentionally interfere with traffic = stunt driving
- ? Aggressive tailgating = stunt driving
- ? When at a red light and attempting to turn left. Turning left on the green ahead of the through traffic and cutting them off in an aggressive manner = stunt driving.

If convicted for Stunt Driving, a driver could face a minimum fine of \$2,000 to a maximum of \$10,000 and a possible jail term of no more than six months. In addition, there will be 6 demerit points accumulated on their driving record and they could face a further licence suspension for up to two years.

With the warmer weather upon us, South Simcoe Police would like to ask motorists to take your time, slow down and plan ahead. You can help make our streets safer for everyone.