

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

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Commission's Railroad Safety Section Reminds Kids and Parents to be Rail Safe as School Starts

(Phoenix) It is back to school time for kids across the state, and the Arizona Corporation Commission's Railroad Safety Section wants kids and parents to remember to be safe when crossing railroad crossings by car or on foot.

"Everyone has a lot on their mind as they are getting back into the school routine," said Railroad Safety Inspector Tim Good. "Trains do not operate on a fixed schedule so even on tracks where you may never have seen a train in the past you always need to expect one could be there."

"School buses are required to stop at tracks for obvious safety reasons," said Railroad Inspector Joe Pinkerman. "You should not just try to swerve around them especially in areas where there could be two sets of tracks. You may not see the train on the second set of tracks."

To ensure safety, it is important to talk to your kids about railway safety and set a good example.

- Do not walk on the tracks.
- Do not walk or drive around gates when they are down.
- Only cross railroad tracks at the designated crossing.
- If a train is stopped and blocking the crossing; wait. Do not climb on equipment to attempt to get through.
- Look, listen, and always expect a train.

The Arizona Corporation Commission's Railroad Safety Section has eight inspectors who inspect railroad operations statewide. Each has a designated practice: mechanical equipment, tracks, hazardous materials, operating practices, and signals. They investigate accidents and work with communities and local government to proactively determine where safety upgrades can be made. To see a video on railroad safety click the following link https://youtu.be/rtB3g5Ow9NM or visit our website at www.azcc.gov.

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Established by Article 15 of the state's constitution, the Arizona Corporation Commission is responsible for the regulation of public utilities and the oversight of incorporation or registration of companies wishing to do business in Arizona. Additionally, the Commission registers and oversees securities offerings and dealers, and enforces railroad and pipeline safety. The five commissioners who make up the Commission are elected by the people of Arizona for a four-year term, with the option of serving for two consecutive terms. To learn more about the Arizona Corporation Commission and its Commissioners, visit http://azcc.gov.