



# Pace Car Deputy Program Guide

Updated July 2011





## *Pace Car Deputy program Guide*

Pace Car Deputies is an aspect of the Pace Car program, meant to be offered in conjunction with the larger Pace Car program in a community. Pace Car Deputies is for elementary school-aged children. It is a leadership opportunity helping children address the issue of speeding and road safety in their community. In cooperation with Active & Safe Routes to School (ASRTS) and the local Community Pace Car team, children learn about the hazards of speeding and how they can help stop speeding even though they don't drive. Each child takes a pledge to become a Pace Car Deputy and receives an official Pace Car Deputy badge/button and pledge card.

### **Participants:**

Age group: Elementary school-aged children, either as part of a school or youth-serving organization

### **How the Program Works**

1. A Pace Car Champion, local police officer or staff member explains the Pace Car and Deputy programs to the children.
2. Children are educated on the importance of safe driving and why driving the speed limit makes a community safer for everyone.
3. Children take the Pace Car Deputy Pledge. The adult who presents Pace Car Deputies to the children leads them in a repeat-after-me pledge, with all the children putting their right hand over their hearts and their left hand in the air.

#### **Pace Car Deputy Pledge:**

- I understand the importance of driving safely.
  - I promise to remind Pace Car drivers of the Pace Car pledge to drive the speed limit.
  - I promise to monitor my parents' and other drivers' speed while riding with them.
  - I pledge to notify the driver when I am feeling unsafe in the car due to speed.
  - I promise to be a well-behaved and observant passenger.
4. Children are given a badge and a card with the Pace Car Deputy pledge and their duties printed on it (they also sign the pledge).

5. Children volunteer at a launch or community event to help people sign up and promote the Pace Car program to adults and the Pace Car Deputy program to other children.
6. Children take action and begin monitoring the speed in their family vehicles and the other vehicles in which they ride in. As children remind their parents and other drivers to drive the speed limit, adults remember their Pace Car pledge and slow down.

### **Deputy duties:**

- Observe Pace Car drivers, see if they are obeying the Pace Car pledge
- Identify the speed limit(s) of the area in which you are traveling.
- Monitor the speedometer in their family vehicles and other vehicles they are riding in
- Remind all drivers (parents, other adults) to slow down and drive the speed limit if they are speeding
- Encourage your parents and other drivers to become Pace Car drivers (if they aren't already)
- Participate in launches, streets parties and other events to promote Pace Car and Active Transportation, such as walking and cycling

### **Pace Car Deputies Kit**

A school or organization that signs up for the Pace Car Deputy program receives the following:

- This guide, including a presentation format for introducing the program to the children
- Enough Pace Car Deputy pledge cards and buttons for each child
- A “We are a Pace Car Community” poster for display in the school/organization

The Neighborhood Pace Car program is an anti-speeding initiative that helps communities change residents' speeding habits. Residents in the community sign the Pace Car pledge, promising to drive the limit at all times and be more courteous by sharing the road with cyclists and pedestrians. Drivers then display the Pace Car emblems on their vehicles, becoming “mobile speed bumps” and slowing traffic wherever they travel. The more Pace Car drivers there are in a community, the better the program works.

The Pace Car program was invented by David Engwicht of Creative Communities International, Queensland, Australia. Pace Car is a partnership of Active & Safe Routes to School of the Ecology Action Centre and the Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal.

# *Pace Car Deputy Induction Presentation*



## **Welcome and Introductions**

### **Overview of the Pace Car program**

- Speaker explains Pace Car Program

### **The Pace Car Program**

Your school and community is part of the Pace Car program. The Pace Car program is an anti-speeding program that helps drivers make their communities safer by promising to drive the speed limit and encourage other to do the same.

Adults sign up and take a pledge to drive the speed limit and be safer, more courteous drivers. After they sign the pledge, they receive Pace Car magnets or clings for their car. Once they put the magnets on their car, they become a “mobile speed bump” which means that as they slow down and drive the speed limit, other drivers behind them end up driving the speed limit too. (Use model cars to demonstrate or just motion with hands.)

When more parents and other drivers take the Pace Car pledge and become Pace Car drivers, the program works better.

### **Pace Car Deputy Duties**

**Speaker:** As a Pace Car Deputy you will play an important part in the Pace Car program. Your duties as a Pace Car Deputy are as follows:

- Observe Pace Car drivers, see if they are obeying the Pace Car pledge
- Identify the speed limit(s) of the area in which you are traveling
- Monitor the speedometer in your family vehicles and other vehicles in which you are riding
- Remind Pace Car drivers of the Pace Car pledge to drive the speed limit
- Encourage your parents and other drivers to become Pace Car drivers (if they aren't already)
- Participate in launches, streets parties and other events to promote Pace Car and active transportation such as walking and cycling

**Speaker:** There are some important things that you should refresh your memory on before you become a Pace Car Deputy.

## **How to Spot a Speed Limit Sign**

**Speaker:** There are lots of different signs along the road showing drivers what they can and can't do. As Pace Car Deputies, one of your jobs will be to identify speed limit signs and notify your parent or guardian if they are not following the speed limit.

### **Ask youth**

**Question: (Show Figure 1)** Do you know what these signs mean? Discuss.

**Speaker:** One of the most important road signs you will see is the speed limit sign. In most places, speed limit signs are a rectangular size and are black and white.

**Question:** Which one of these signs is a speed limit sign? Discuss.

**Question:** Can you name the other signs, too? Discuss.

**Question:** What does a speed limit sign show? Discuss.

**Speaker:** The number shown on a speed limit sign is the maximum speed your parent or guardian should be driving. Maximum means the highest number motorists can drive in that area. Speed limit signs are set up so that drivers know how to drive on that particular road. Speed limits are also important because they help police identify drivers who are not following the proper speed limits and not driving safely. If there is a large curve, speed limits tell you to slow down. If there is a straight stretch of road, the speed limit shows you that you can increase your speed.

**Question:** Can you think of other places where speed limits change?

**Speaker: (Show Figure 2)**

**Question:** What speed should your parent or guardian be driving, if you saw this sign? Can they go 40? Can they go 60? Discuss.

**Speaker:** When drivers follow the speed limit, they are making their community and everywhere they drive a safer place. When lots of drivers decide to become safer drivers, a community can become a fun and safe place for walking and cycling.

## **What is a speedometer?**

**Speaker: (Show Figure 3)** The speedometer is the instrument in the car that shows the driver what speed they are driving. It is located on the dashboard behind the steering wheel near the fuel gage.

**Question:** If you spot a speed limit sign that says 50 and you check the speedometer and your parent is driving 60 or 65, what should you do? Discuss.

### **Induction Ceremony**

**Speaker:** You now know

- what the Pace Car program is
- what a speed limit sign is
- how to monitor the speedometer in your car

You are ready to become a Pace Car Deputy!

### **The Pace Car Deputy pledge**

**Speaker:** Please repeat after me.

- I understand the importance of driving safely.
- I promise to remind Pace Car drivers of the Pace Car pledge to drive the speed limit.
- I promise to monitor my parents' and other drivers' speed while riding with them.
- I pledge to notify the driver when I am feeling unsafe in the car due to speed.
- I promise to be a well-behaved and observant passenger.

### **Pace Car Deputy Induction**

- Ask each child to come up to receive their Deputy badge and card.
- Ask each Deputy to sign their pledge card.
- Once each child has signed their card ask the students to place their card in a safe place.

**Congratulate the new Pace Car Deputies!  
You're finished!**

**Appendix:** Figure 1  
Figure 2  
Figure 3



Figure 1

Figure  
2



R2-1

Figure 3

