



As spring finally begins to arrive, we'd like to remind you that May is AMA Motorcycle Awareness Month. Please take a moment in your personal and social media interaction to remind your non-riding friends and family to watch out for motorcycles returning to roads.

The AMA State Chapter of Missouri represents an effort by the AMA and your State Coordinator to communicate with current and potential members on topics that affect the motorcycling community and rider rights in your state.

To reach AMA Missouri State Coordinator Robert Horsch regarding issues relating to non-competition recreation and motorcyclists' rights in Missouri, please email him at mocoordinator@ama-cycle.org

NEWS

PICKERINGTON, Ohio - Three-time AMA Grand National Champion and AMA Superbike champion Bubba Shobert will be the Grand Marshal of this year's AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days, featuring Honda, on July 5-7, 2019 at Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course in Lexington, Ohio. As a longtime factory Honda rider and one of the winningest racers in professional motorcycle competition, Shobert is an ideal choice for this year's AMA Vintage Motorcycle Days, featuring Honda, which will not only celebrate the 50th anniversary of Honda's legendary 1969 CB750 but also the 40th anniversary of the six-cylinder CBX and the 60th anniversary of American Honda Motor Co.'s presence in the United States. On hand to thrill race fans will be Shobert's factory Honda RS750, owned by American Honda, and his 1988 VFR750 championship-winning Superbike, owned by Superbike collector extraordinaire Brian O'Shea. Weather permitting, Shobert will ride the VFR750 around the road race course as he leads the Lap for History-a ride that fans can participate in with a small donation to the Hall of Fame. In addition to the RS750, American Honda will be on hand with a variety of classic and new-bike displays, all of which will highlight the

company's significance to American motorcycling, particularly the advent in 1969 of the legendary CB750 Four. Expect CB750-oriented clubs, restorers and fans to help highlight possibly the most important production motorcycle in history. AMA members can purchase discounted tickets now at www.amavintagemotorcycledays.com. All camping and RV passes, as well as non-AMA member ticket sales, are available now at www.mid-ohio.com.

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has released its proposed rule that lifts the summertime ban on higher-ethanol blends of gasoline, particularly E15, which contains 50 percent more ethanol than the common E10. A ban on E15 has been in place during warmer months across most of the country, because the EPA determined it contributes to smog in hot weather. The AMA opposes the increased availability of E15, because use of the fuel is illegal in motorcycles and ATVs, none of which are certified by the EPA to operate on fuel blends containing more than 10 percent ethanol. Studies show that consumers shop for fuel by price, raising concerns that motorcyclists will inadvertently pump the cheaper E15 blends into their vehicles. Ethanol can cause damage to engines, fuel systems and exhaust components in vehicles not designed for a specific blend. At the same time, the ethanol industry launched an E15 marketing campaign that adds confusion to the issue. Growth Energy, an ethanol marketing organization, began promoting E15 as Unleaded 88 in an effort to help retailers sell more of the fuel blend. So far, Sheetz, Kwik Trip, Protec Fuels, Kum & Go, Minnoco, and Family Express have signed on. In a press release about the campaign, Growth Energy stated, "Unleaded 88 communicates the octane of the fuel in the way consumers are used to seeing it." But by emphasizing octane rating over ethanol content, this campaign could easily mislead consumers into filling their fuel tanks with a harmful mixture for their vehicles.

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Six motorcycle manufacturers have joined together with the vision of increasing safety for on-road riders in the United States through data driven approaches and collaboration with relevant stakeholders. Harley-Davidson Motor Company, American Honda Motor Company, BMW Motorrad, Indian Motorcycle Company, Kawasaki Motors Corp. USA and Yamaha Motor Corporation USA teamed up to form the Safer Motorcycling Research Consortium. The organization was incorporated as a 501(c)(6) nonprofit to develop strategies to advance and integrate on-road motorcyclists' safety through data driven research and collaboration with relevant stakeholders. The Board of Directors, appointed by the founding member companies, will coordinate and facilitate pre-competitive research activities in collaboration with the interests of relevant federal agencies. SMRC will also include input from associate members consisting of other OEMs, motorcycle industry suppliers, and technical or scientific organizations engaged in the field of on-road motorcycle safety. For more information, visit: SaferMotorcyclingResearchConsortium.org.

LEGISLATION



The AMA Supports the Following information in Missouri:

Number: **MO [R] HB 211** - Updated (Status 01/11/2019)

Sponsor: Rep. Greg Razer (D-MO)

Title: [Prohibits the use of hand-held electronic wireless communications devices while driving non-commercial and commercial motor vehicles; but allows the use of such devices when used hands-free by operators of non-commercial motor vehicles who are fully licensed and 18 years of age or older](#)

Status: [Read Second Time - 01/10/2019](#)

Number: **MO [R] HB 223** - Updated (Text 01/22/2019)

Sponsor: Rep. Jim Hansen (R-MO)

Title: [Prohibits text messaging while driving for all drivers](#)

Status: [Read Second Time - 01/10/2019](#)

Number: **MO [R] HB 742** - Updated (Status 02/01/2019)

Sponsor: Rep. Mike Henderson (R-MO)

Title: [Prohibits text messaging while driving for all drivers](#)

Status: [Read Second Time - 01/31/2019](#)

Number: **MO [R] HB 896** - Updated (Text, Status 02/13/2019)

Sponsor: Rep. Rory Rowland (D-MO)

Title: [Prohibits the use of a hand-held wireless communications device for texting by drivers of any age](#)

Status: [Read Second Time - 02/12/2019](#)

Number: **MO [R] HCR 42** - Updated (Status 02/20/2019)

Sponsor: Rep. Brandon Ellington (D-MO)

Title: [Encourages collaboration and communication with the motorcycle community and law enforcement officials to end motorcycle profiling](#)

Status: [Read Second Time - 02/13/2019](#)

For more information on legislation the AMA is monitoring in Missouri, please visit the AMA's [Missouri Legislative Report](#).

RACING

Watch your favorite racer or suit up yourself for these AMA-sanctioned competition events:

IOWA ATV HARE SCRAMBLE SERIES

Type: Hare Scrambles

Date: 5/4/2019 - 5/5/2019

Phone: 515-971-1087

Location: Trenton, MO

Email: iatvhss@msn.com

WebSite: iatvhss.com

A Message from AMA State Chapter of Missouri State Coordinator Robert Horsch

Its springtime! Time to unplug the trickle charger, check your tire pressure and fluid levels, put on the gear and go for a ride. Some of our friends who live in southern Missouri were fortunate to have several days each month with weather suitable for riding. Our friends to the North ... well, let's say we were not so blessed.

Much has been written about preparing a motorcycle for spring, but relatively little is ever said about preparing a rider's body for motorcycle rides. You know, it takes much more mental focus and physical stamina to ride a motorcycle than it does to drive a car.



When a body becomes fatigued, reaction times lengthen, agility suffers, and the ability to make quick decisions in challenging riding situations can be seriously degraded. A physical conditioning regimen can prepare your body for riding.

Such a regimen should have at least three main areas of focus: core strengthening, flexibility and endurance.

Gaining and maintaining core body strength should be your main focus. The abdominal muscles originate motion and keep your body stabilized and balanced, which are fundamental to riding a motorcycle.

Lack of flexibility in the body can result in physical problems and general discomfort. For motorcycle riders, the most important areas to stretch are the back, neck, thighs, and hamstrings to reduce risk of pain or injury. Yoga is an excellent practice for stretching and developing a strong core.

Aerobic or cardiovascular exercises are also important and are an excellent way of increasing a motorcyclist's endurance and alertness. Some of the best aerobic exercises include: walking, swimming, running and bicycling.

There are many benefits to exercise, keeping you more alert, improving comfort and making your rides more enjoyable. Heck, it might even help you get into last year's riding jacket.

With the first couple of rides, remember that the skills that were second nature at the end of the season have been dormant. It will take a little time for those skills to resurface.

Roads and trails degrade during the winter, additional debris erosion and water damage can occur

as well as our favorite pot holes. Be alert, even on roads and trails you traveled thousands of times. Surprises happen when you least expect it. That's why they are called surprises. As tempting as it is to give the throttle healthy twists, please resist and ride within your limits.

Plan to do something for the good of motorcycling. Here are some suggestions:

- a. You are already a member of an organizations poised to make changes, so now sign up a friend or that new rider you have been mentoring.
- b. The AMA is always looking for volunteers. Give it a try, and you will meet likeminded people, promote motorcycling and have a blast. Contact AMA State Chapter and Volunteer network manager Marie Wuelleh. statechapters@ama-cycle.org
- c. Enroll in the EAGLES training (Education, Activism, Growth, Enterprise and Skills) www.americanmotorcyclist.com/For-Members/AMA-EAGLES
- d. Become active in government relations. Sign up to receive the AMA alerts to your email. Check the on-highway, off-highway, ATV and News & Notes. This will connect you to all the news you need to keep up to date with advocacy issues. www.americanmotorcyclist.com/Home/News-Story/ama-news-notes
- e. Enhance your rider skill set by taking a rider improvement course. Missouri Motorcycle Safety Program offers six improvement courses and with 31 training facilities throughout the state there is sure to be one near you. You can supersize your involvement in rider education by becoming a certified Rider Coach, or Range Aide. www.mmsp.org
- f. Involve yourself in trail maintenance. Trails deteriorate at a faster rate than roads, so maintenance is always required. Maintenance is critical in keeping the trails safe, as well as open.

Here is a quote from Kyle Mayer at RevZilla: "Each of us is just one rider, but we all can contribute to positive change by doing little things that add up to big results."

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