Farmingville, NY – Brookhaven Highway Superintendent Daniel P. Losquadro is announcing a program available to local high schools that will prevent young drivers from developing bad habits and in the process save lives. The Teen Driver Safety Program is administered through the Highway Department’s Division of Traffic Safety and provides students with a hands-on, interactive experience of just how dangerous operating a motor vehicle can be while driving distracted or with their abilities impaired.

“Motor vehicle accidents are the number one cause of death for teenagers in America,” Superintendent Losquadro said. “With our Division of Traffic Safety we work very hard to give children a well-rounded perspective of how absolutely critical it is to develop safe habits when traveling the roadways. We have a program where classes of third grade students can come to Safety Town and receive instruction about traffic safety inside a miniature village. Last year we invested in a trailer to bring the Teen Driver Safety Program directly to local school districts, allowing us to reach children at both the elementary school age and then reinforce the safety program at the high school age.”

The program will bring certified instructors from the Division of Traffic Safety to local high schools throughout Brookhaven Town and use electric cars and cones to set up two driving courses. One course students will use to experience how dangerous texting and driving is, and on the other course teens will drive with special goggles to see how their vision is influenced in a harmful way when driving impaired. The program can take place either inside or outside. The financing for the initiative is provided by a grant through the Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee to fund road safety programs for local children.

“I strongly encourage local high schools to take advantage of the Teen Driver Safety Program and call Safety Town to schedule an event,” Superintendent Losquadro said. “When students are provided with a hands-on, interactive experience like this they will remember what they learned and it will encourage them to tell their friends.”

If you work with a local school district and are interested in having the Teen Driver Safety Program held at your high school, please call Safety Town at (631) 363-3770.