

Safe Driving

Safe driving is a fundamental skill that every teen, adult, and senior should be equipped with. In an effort to promote safe driving amongst its students, faculty and staff, the University of Georgia, of which I attend, has created an event called Operation Safe Drive. This was firstly conducted in 2020, and primarily focuses on ensuring that everyone is driving a thoroughly inspected and approved vehicle. At this event, the university provided free vehicle inspections, tune-ups, fluid level checks, belt and hose assessments, wiper blade inspections, and tire pressure checks. The UGA Office of Sustainability also provided contactless services for those interested in receiving a bicycle safety inspection and tune-up, as this was during the time of COVID-19's prominence.

While this event was a great way to promote safe driving in terms of vehicle safety, I believe there could also be initiatives made towards teaching the students and faculty, as well those in the Athens community, how to drive safely and defensively. The university could impact a lot of people by offering courses that teach and practice defensive driving techniques. The community could also benefit from informationals that spread awareness on the importance of safe driving and provide quick tips that are easy to learn and remember. This is necessary for the well-being of the Athens and UGA community because it's important for people to know the true severity of driving, along with different techniques and tips that one can use to navigate through tough situations. With the increasing number of people that suffer from tragic accidents each day, I believe these initiatives could improve people's chances of both preventing and surviving car accidents. Education is always the first step, but courses and practice will surely drive this point home and set people up to have safe driving experiences.