

Ontario Distracted Driving Law

Ontario's new distracted driving law makes it illegal for motorists to use hand-held wireless communication devices or hand-held electronic entertainment devices while driving. For two-way radio operators, *there is a three-year phase-out period until January 1, 2013 for the commercial use of two-way radios, including mobile and CB radios to allow for hands-free technologies to be developed. Hand-mikes (push-to-talk systems) and portable radios ("walkie-talkies") may be used in a hands-free mode. The driver may use a lapel button or other hands-free application as long as the hand-mike or walkie-talkie is not held while driving.*

More information on the law can be found at: <http://news.ontario.ca/mto/en/2009/10/road-rules-for-hand-held-wireless-and-entertainment-devices.html>.

For more information on specific exemptions for commercial drivers and emergency and other public service workers, download a copy of Ontario Regulation 366/09 at http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/source/regs/english/2009/elaws_src_regs_r09366_e.htm.