

# CT Work Zone Safety 'Work Zone Wally' Mascot's Name

After long hours of labor, I was born on April 24, 2012. I sprung out from a construction project on Interstate 95 in Old Lyme and the highway workers who delivered me are a great bunch of guys from Tilcon, CT. I stand at almost 11 feet tall and have a glowing personality thanks to my reflective DNA. I consider myself to be an environmentally friendly chap especially since I come from recycled barrels and cones and tires.

I am new to the role of mascot, and have been taking some great advice from my friend down in Missouri, Barrel Bob. I feel lucky to have a job where I can do what I truly love and be a spokesperson for work zone safety.

I was immediately adopted by the Connecticut Work Zone Safety Awareness Working Group as their mascot and they didn't waste any time putting me to work. My first appearance was at the Annual Connecticut Work Zone Safety press conference on April 24, 2012 where I got to meet some pretty special kids who made posters to spread our safety message.



Another event that was close to my heart was a barbecue fundraiser held on August 4, 2012 to raise money for the Daniel DiNardi Children's Fund. Dan was a dedicated worker who was tragically killed on March 22, 2012 while working on the highway. Dan is not only a friend to many of us at the Connecticut DOT but most importantly he is a Dad



I have also done some traveling to special events including the "Transportation Investments Create Opportunities" Career Fair in North Haven, the Eastern States Exposition (Big E) in West Springfield, Massachusetts and the Construction Pro Rodeo in Durham, CT to name a few.



I won't say it has been a joy ride all the time going to and from these places. I have gone by truck, van and car, which to be quite honest is a bit unnerving since I'm not altogether during my travels, literally!

My mission is to be the voice of the worker and make sure all motorists are in tune to the hazards that we face each and every day.

2013 is going to be a busy year and I look forward to getting out on the road with my fellow workers to share their stories and get the message out to all you drivers.

SEE YOU IN THE SPRING AND REMEMBER...

