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## **Sarasota County Teen Drivers Invited to Take the Challenge**

The Sarasota County Sheriff's office is offering a free hands-on program to help teens become safer drivers.

The Teen Driver Challenge is a two-day course designed to give students the experience they need to drive safely. Deputies teach the class in association with the Florida Sheriffs Association.

The first day drivers are taught about teen crashes, safe-driving habits and the importance of their five senses behind the wheel. The class also helps them become more familiar with their vehicle. The second day, students are on the driving course learning skills such as backing up, emergency braking and evasive maneuvers.

The Teen Driver Challenge is open to licensed drivers. The training will be held twice each quarter, with each session limited to 20 students. The first two sessions are:

- **October 16-17.** The classroom portion will be held Friday night from 5-9 p.m. at the Criminal Justice Center, 2071 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota. The driving portion will be held Saturday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at the driving range, 664 West Price Blvd., next to North Port High School.
- **October 22-23.** These classes will be held at the driving range, 664 West Price Blvd., North Port, next to North Port High School. The classroom portion is Friday night from 5-9 p.m., and the driving portion is Saturday from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Teen drivers can contact their School Resource Deputy for more information or call (941) 927-4190. Registration forms are available online at [www.SarasotaSheriff.org](http://www.SarasotaSheriff.org) by clicking on Teen Driver Challenge. An [online video](#) demonstrates elements of the course and includes testimonials from teens who have taken the challenge.