



Press Release
North Fond du Lac Police Department
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The national safety belt use rate is the highest it has ever been at 79 percent, but that still leaves nearly 60 million Americans, disproportionately teens and young adults, risking their lives by riding unbuckled. That's why this May they are going to be surrounded with the strong message, "Click It or Ticket; If you won't buckle up to save your life, then buckle up to save yourself a ticket," as the North Fond du Lac Police Department joins more than 13,000 law enforcement agencies in a nationwide crackdown on seat belt violators.

The two-week enforcement wave, which runs from May 24 - June 6, is based on a proven public health model to increase belt use called "high visibility enforcement." According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 4,530 teens ages 16-19, died and some 320,000 more were seriously injured in traffic crashes in 2002. While young drivers ages 15-20 account for 6.6 percent of licensed drivers (12.6 million), they represented 14 percent of all drivers involved in fatal crashes and 16 percent (1,862,000) of police reported crashes in 2001.

During the national Click It or Ticket Mobilization, officers will intensify enforcement of child passenger safety laws, seatbelt laws, and impaired driving laws. The Click It or Ticket Mobilizations are coordinated by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration with support from the Air Bag & Seat Belt Safety Campaign of the National Safety Council, and in partnership with the U.S. Department of Transportation, the National Transportation Safety Board, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, and law enforcement nationwide.