

### Teens Toward Zero Deaths

Several students from Lincoln High School were recognized for their outstanding work with Teens Toward Zero Deaths. These teens showed leadership and organizational skills throughout the year and showcased a variety of their additional talents hosting the 2023 Teen TZD Conference.

Those students included Brookie Bakke, Ali Yuska, Natalie Novak, Kendal Rantanen, and Abigail Bieganek. The students were recognized by Sue Johnson, TZD NW Regional Coordinator, for their hard work at the Lincoln High School Recognition Assembly on May 25, 2023.



A big shout out to Beltrami County for displaying traffic safety messages on Hwy 2. Bruce Hasbargen, Beltrami County Engineer and Amanda Monroe, Beltrami Highway Support Technician and TZD County Coordinators work with Premier Signs to promote traffic safety.

“Drive Like Your Mama’s Watching. Slow Down.” is their current message and hopefully will resonate with drivers who feel the need to speed.

The 100 days from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day has a dangerous reputation for fatal crashes. Last year, 38% of all fatal crashes happened during those 100 days.

## Enforcement Update:

- DWI (optional): Every Thursday-Saturday, May 11-Sept 2, 2023
- Seatbelts and child restraints: May 22-June 4, 2023
- Speed: July 1-31, 2023
- DWI: Aug 18-Sept 4, 2023

## Weekly Traffic Fatality Update

- Through June 4, there were 116 traffic-related deaths on Minnesota roadways. This is 15% less than there were at this time last year.
- Speed-related deaths are 29% less than at this time last year.
- Alcohol-related deaths are 33% lower than at this time last year.

## Drive Safe: Secure Your Load

In an effort to keep people safe on the roads, the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is reminding drivers that it is their responsibility to properly secure transported objects. Items not properly secured pose a safety risk on our nation's roadways. Objects or debris can fall from vehicles and can collide with other vehicles or pedestrians, causing serious injuries or fatalities.

From 2016–2020, approximately 16,878 people were injured per year when a vehicle collided with another object while on the road. During this same time period, passenger vehicles accounted for 81% of crashes in which cargo was not properly secured. From 2016-2020, there were an average of 732 fatalities per year when a vehicle collided with another object that was not properly secured.

### Follow these tips to ensure you properly secure your cargo:

- Tie cargo down with rope, netting, or straps.
- Tie large objects directly to your vehicle or trailer.
- Consider covering the entire load with a sturdy tarp or netting.
- Don't overload your vehicle or trailer.
- Always double-check your load to make sure it's secure.



## Mark your Calendars!

### 2023

- NW Region TZD Steering Committee Teams Meeting –September 9, 2023 @ Bemidji MnDOT Headquarters (in-person only) from 10:0-12:00pm.
- TZD State Conference - November 14-15, 2023 (T-W), Mayo Civic Center, Rochester
- NW Regional Workshop—April 24, 2023. Legacy Center, Thief River Falls (Tentative)

## Traffic Trivia

*Question:* In all age groups, who has the highest number of crashes?



*Answer:*  
Teenagers and young adults.

## Toward Zero Deaths Northwest Regional Newsletter

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