DigiKey Corporation Holds Health and Safety Event

Digikey held their annual event on June 14, 2023. Minnesota State Patrol, NW TZD Regional Coordinator, and the Pennington County Sheriff’s department participated and shared a booth. Over 1,000 employees scanned their badges as they walked through the event. The drunk goggles drew a lot of attention and is an educational and interactive way to talk about impairment and driving sober. The seat belt convincer demonstrated the importance of always wearing a seat belt whether you the driver or a passenger.

With the recent new cannabis law, the sheriff’s department educated the employees on the law, the different kids of cannabis, and the various edibles.

Color Run Fair

Support Within Reach hosted a Color Fun Fair in Bemidji on June 16, 2023. Amanda Monroe, Beltrami County Highway Department, her daughter, Madysen, along with Trp. Bailey Anderson from the Minnesota State Patrol, educated the community on the importance of planning for a sober drive and the dangers of driving impaired. It you feel impaired, you are impaired.
Enforcement Update:

- DWI (optional): Nov 3-5, 2022—Deer hunting opener
- DWI: Nov 23-26; Dec 1-3; 8-10; 15-17; 22-24; 29-31, 2022
- DWI (optional): Feb 11-12, 2023—Super Bowl

Weekly Traffic Fatality Update

- Through July 4, there were 168 traffic-related deaths on Minnesota roadways. This is 10% less than there were at this time last year (186).
- Motorcycle deaths are 15% less than at this time last year.
- Pedestrian deaths (18) are 5% lower than they were at this time last year (19).

Fertile Driver’s Education

Minnesota State Patrol, Trp. Cole Lundeen and Trp. Seth Kuhn along with Sue Johnson, NW Toward Zero Deaths Coordinator, presented at the Fertile High School driver’s education classes on June 13, 2023. The troopers showed the “Life Without Logan” video and drove home the importance of wearing a seat belt whether you are driving or are a passenger. They also educated on distracted and impaired driving and speed. TZD brought the driving simulator for the students to better understand how distracted driving is dangerous and can lead to car crashes.

Bike TRF

Bike TRF held their annual bike take/swap event on June 7 & 8, 2023. The community was invited to stop and pick up a used bike for free, exchange their current bike for a bigger one or different one, or donate a bike. Local Bike TRF members fixed bikes and made them user ready. Education materials and safety items were handed out at the event.

Mark you Calendars!

2023

- National Night Out—August 1, 2023
- NW Region TZD Steering Committee Teams Meeting – Sept 6, 2023 @ Bemidji MnDOT Headquarters (in-person only) from 10:00-12:00 pm.
- TZD State Conference - November 14-15, 2023 (T-W), Mayo Civic Center, Rochester

Toward Zero Deaths Northwest Regional Newsletter

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