

BSU Traffic Safety Event

Bemidji State University (BSU) held their event on October 21, 2023 at the Sanford Event Center in Bemidji. It was sponsored by the Criminal Justice Club, Law Enforcement, and NW Toward Zero Deaths.

The venue also served as a recruitment effort. High school students from throughout the state were invited to participate in a tour of the college, lunch, and the traffic safety event. Several other vendors and BSU departments participated by having informational booths at the event. The students and their families were also invited to the BSU vs UMD Hockey Game that evening. Several hundred people attended!

TZD brought their seat belt convincer, seat belt persuader, and Fatal Vision/drunk goggles. Education was focused on wearing a seat belt every time you get in a vehicle, speed, distracted driving, and impaired driving.



THIEF RIVER FALLS BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 4TH, 2023

Free bike safety items for Participants

Students who want to bike to Challenger, St. Bernards and Franklin Middle School can meet in the Greenwood Trail parking lot at 7:30 am. Bike Train volunteers will leave for school at 7:45 am. Please be safe and wear a helmet!



Enforcement Update:

- DWI (optional): Nov 2-4, 2023—Deer hunting opener
- DWI: Nov 22-25; Nov 30 - Dec 2; 7-9; 14-16; 21-23; 28-31, 2022
- DWI (optional): Feb 10-11, 2024—Super Bowl
- DWI (optional): Mar 14-17, 2024—St. Patrick's Day Celebrations

Weekly Traffic Fatality Update

- In 2023 through October 29th, there were 328 traffic-related deaths on Minnesota roadways. This is 14% less than there were at this time last year (381).
- Speed-related deaths are 18% less than at this time last year.
- Alcohol-related deaths are almost 30% lower than each of the last two years and lower than the previous four years.

Impact Teen Drivers Presentations in Hubbard County

Minnesota State Patrol Trooper Nate Tupy, and Sue Johnson, NW TZD Coordinator presented the "What Do You Consider Lethal" traffic safety educational video to the 10th grade students in Nevis, Laporte and Park Rapids the week of October 30, 2023. We were welcomed by Principals Lee Pederson (Laporte), Brian Michealson (Nevis), and Jeff Johnson (Park Rapids).

The video is interactive and allows the presenters to address the four most common causes of crashes which are unbelted drivers and passengers, impaired, speed, and distractions. Teen car crashes are the #1 cause of teen deaths. Our goal is to educate the students on making better choices while driving a vehicle or being a passenger.



Mark your Calendars!

- November 14-15, 2023 (T-W), TZD State Conference -Mayo Civic Center, Rochester
- December 4-8, 2023 - Older Driver Safety Awareness Week
- December 13 –January 1, 2023, - Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over High Visibility Enforcement (NHTSA)

Traffic Trivia

Question: How many roundabouts in Minnesota?

Answer:
498



Toward Zero Deaths Northwest Regional Newsletter

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