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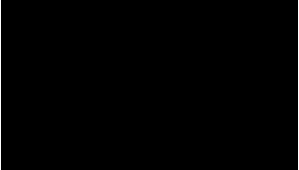
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Top 5 Excuses Why People Don't Wear Their Seat Belts

by- Ryan Gellner, Traffic Safety Outreach Program Manager

1. It'll wrinkle my clothes. (Would you rather wrinkle your FACE in a car crash?)
2. The airbags will protect me. (Um, no. Air bags are designed to work with seat belts. You need to be belted in.)
3. It's uncomfortable. (So is a massive head injury and internal bleeding.)
4. I'm a good driver. (Of course you are! But, you're driving among some very bad/drunk/tired/distracted drivers.)
5. Wearing a seat belt or not should be MY choice. (It is! You get to CHOOSE to die needlessly or walk away from a terrible crash? It's YOUR choice.)

And here's the top reason why you should wear a seat belt: **Wearing a seat belt is the most effective way to save a life on the road** - your life or your passengers' lives.



Make your new year's resolution easy. Put your seat belt on...Every trip. Every time.

Our roads in North Dakota are busier than ever. The best way to protect yourself and your passengers is to make sure that everyone in your vehicle is buckled up. In 2013, nearly 60 percent of motor vehicle fatalities in North Dakota were not wearing their seat belt.

Still not convinced that wearing your seat belt could save your life? Here are some facts from the North Dakota Department of Transportation that might surprise you:

In North Dakota in 2013:

- One traffic crash occurred every 27 minutes
- One person was injured every 1.6 hours
- One person died in a crash every 2.5 days
- One unbelted occupant in a passenger car or pickup died every 5.2 days
- One motorcyclist was in a crash every 1.6 days
- One teenage-driver crash occurred every 2.6 hours
- One alcohol-related crash occurred every 8.6 hours

Crashes do happen and buckling up will keep you safe if you are involved in one. Make buckling up a habit.

Drive safe this New Year. Make your resolution count!

[Report Seat Belt Use in North Dakota](#)

2015 National Roadway Safety Awards Call for Nominations

The National Roadway Safety Awards is a biennial competition sponsored by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Roadway Safety Foundation (RSF) to recognize roadway safety achievements that move the United States towards zero deaths and serious injuries on the Nation's roadways. The competition acknowledges successful engineering solutions that agencies have integrated into their roadway safety programs. Awards are given in two categories: Infrastructure and Operational Improvements; and Program Planning, Development, and Evaluation. Selected projects are included in a noteworthy practices guide so they can be replicated nationwide.

The FHWA and the RSF stress the importance of strategic, data-driven approaches to improving highway safety. Applicants are encouraged to nominate projects or programs that exemplify innovative and effective safety activities and maximize the cost effectiveness of Federal, State, local, and/or private sector funds.

[Brochure](#)

[Application](#)

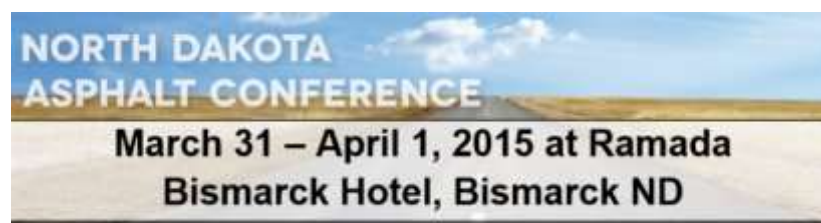
National Local Technical Assistance Association - Joint Safety Program Free Webinar

The Joint Safety Program is pleased to announce the next safety webinar on February 24, 2015, at 1:00pm CT. The topic will be Access Management. Speaker is Jeff Shaw from the FHWA Office of Safety.

This webinar will focus on two of the FHWA Proven Safety Countermeasures for Intersections - Retroreflective Borders on Backplates and Corridor Access Management. The presentation will cover the basics on the application of these countermeasures, their effectiveness in improving intersection safety, and use case studies to illustrate effective, successful implementation

[Click here for registration details](#)

Upcoming Conferences



This news bulletin produced by NDLTAP will be emailed on a regular basis to keep you informed of new transportation-related issues. Please share this publication with anyone who may benefit from this information.

If you have any comments or suggestions for this publication please contact NDLTAP.

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