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**(Neb.)-Chadron Police Department Prepares For Click It Or Ticket**



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 11/20/2013 11:35 AM

(CHADRON)-The Chadron Police Department will soon be participating in the Nebraska Office of Highway Safety's (NOHS) Click It or Ticket mobilization. The Chadron PD recently received a grant from the NOHS for the mobilization. The \$1,500 grant will provide 12 officers and 4 dispatchers for 48 hours during the seven-day enforcement period.

The goal of the mobilization is to reduce the amount of injuries and fatalities incurred by individuals who choose not to wear safety belts while driving a motor vehicle. The program will begin Monday, November 25th, and run until Sunday, December 1st.

According to NOHS and the National Highway Transportation and Safety Administration:

--As of October, the lack of seatbelt law compliance has resulted in 57 rollover fatalities, with only three of those using seatbelts at the time of the crash.

--Seatbelt use saves thousands of lives across America each year. In 2011 alone, seatbelts saved an estimated 11,949 lives nationwide.

--In fatal crashes during 2011, 77 percent of passenger vehicle occupants who were thrown from their vehicles were killed. However, only one percent of crash victims who were buckled up were totally ejected from their vehicles, compared to 31 percent of those who were unbelted.

--Motorists are 75 percent less likely to be killed in a rollover crash if they are buckled up.

--Click It or Ticket works. High-visibility enforcement is credited with increasing the national seatbelt usage rate from 58 percent in 1994 to an estimated observed usage rate of 86 percent in 2012, which is an all-time high

rate.

--Nationally, 62 percent of the 10,135 passenger vehicle occupants who were killed in motor vehicle traffic crashes overnight (6:00 p.m. to 5:59 a.m.) in 2011 were not wearing their seat belts at the time of the fatal crash, compared to 43 percent during the daytime hours.

--Younger motorists, young men in particular, are most at risk. Among teens and young adults, ages 18-34, who were killed in fatal crashes in 2011, 64 percent were NOT buckled up at the time of the crash, which is the highest percentage of any age group. The number jumps to 66 percent when only men in this age group are included.

The Chadron Police Department believes that the use of safety belts promotes safety and responsibility in the community. Not using a safety belt can be the last mistake that you ever make. Buckling up can not only save your life, but also save yourself from fines, injury and regret.

The Chadron Police Department will step up enforcement by conducting as many traffic stops and making as many contacts as possible during all hours of the day and night during the grant period in the City of Chadron. The Chadron Police Department firmly believes that if you wear your safety belt and ensure that everyone in your vehicle is buckled up, there is a much greater chance that they will be safe, should a collision occur.

--Chadron Police Department