



# Strum Police Department

Trempealeau County • Chief Craig Marsolek  
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Dear Citizens,

Every 13 minutes in Wisconsin, a man, woman or child is injured or killed in a traffic crash. Nationwide, traffic crashes are the leading killer of children and young people from ages 4 to 34.

During a crash, safety belts provide the most effective protection against being ejected from a vehicle or thrown around violently inside it. That's why 75 percent of passenger vehicle occupants who are buckled up survive a serious traffic crash.

To prevent needless deaths and serious injuries, the Strum Police Department along with law enforcement officers from all over Wisconsin will be patrolling in greater numbers and for longer hours during the "Click It or Ticket" safety belt enforcement mobilization from May 21 to June 3. Along with intensified enforcement, Click It or Ticket safety belt messages will be broadcast on television and radio stations during the mobilization.

The combination of stringent law enforcement and an effective media campaign has helped increase safety belt use in recent years. A study last year showed that safety belt use in Wisconsin reached an all-time high of 75 percent. But we still have a lot of work to do to reach the national average of 81 percent.

The Click It or Ticket message is clear. If you're stopped by an officer and aren't wearing a safety belt, you will get a ticket whether you're driving or just a passenger. No excuses will be accepted, and you won't get a warning or a second chance.

Our goal is not to write more tickets but to save lives and prevent needless injuries by getting more people to buckle up voluntarily. But if voluntarily compliance fails, we are prepared to enforce the state's mandatory safety belt law. It only takes a second to buckle up and avoid a ticket-or even worse-a violent death.

Thank you,

Chief Craig S. Marsolek  
Strum Police Department