Seat belts

Wearing a seat belt is such a simple thing to do and provides the best protection in a crash. Seat belts prevent people from being thrown from the car during a crash. Taking a couple of seconds to buckle your seat belt could save your life.

- Wearing a seat belt can reduce the risk of serious injury and death in a crash by half.
- Nearly half of the drivers and passengers killed in crashes in Wisconsin in 2017 were not wearing a seat belt.
- Teens have among the lowest rates of seat belt use compared with other age groups.

How Wisconsin law protects

- Wisconsin law requires all drivers and passengers over the age of 4 to wear seat belts. Children younger than 4 must ride in a car seat.
- Wisconsin has a primary enforcement seat belt law, which means that police can pull over and ticket drivers who aren't wearing seat belts.
- The fine for not wearing your seat belt can vary depending on the age of the unrestrained passenger.

Reduce your risk

- Use a seat belt every trip, no matter how short.
- Keep your seat belt on at all times while in the car. Unbuckling for even a second puts you at risk.
- Ask all passengers to buckle up and don't move the car until they are buckled.
- Adults and teens can set a good example by always wearing a seat belt.
- Children younger than 12 should sit in the back seat and should never sit in front of an airbag.
- Young passengers should always be properly buckled in a seat belt, booster seat or car seat.

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