



NEWS RELEASE



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Woodridge Police Department joins Click It or Ticket Campaign to Help Save Lives

Woodridge, IL – The 2013 Click It or Ticket campaign kicks off May 10th in Illinois. The purpose of the campaign is to help save lives by cracking down on those who do not buckle up through the Memorial Day holiday weekend.

The **Woodridge Police Department** is joining the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), the Illinois State Police (ISP) and over 500 local law enforcement agencies across the state to save more lives by strongly enforcing seat belt laws.

“As we kick-off the busy summer driving season it’s important for everyone to buckle up every trip, every time, day or night – no excuses,” said **Deputy Chief Keith Grabarek**. “Our officers are prepared to ticket anyone who is not wearing a seat belt.”

Provisional numbers show that during the 2012 Memorial Day weekend there were six fatalities and almost 600 injuries on Illinois roadways. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 52 percent of the 21,253 passenger vehicle occupants killed in 2011 were not wearing their seat belts at the time of the crash. Deaths involving seat belt nonuse are even more prevalent at night than during the daytime. According to NHTSA, 62 percent of the 10,135 passenger vehicle occupants killed in 2011 during the overnight hours of 6 p.m. to 5:59 a.m. were not wearing their seat belts at the time of the crash.

“Seat belts save thousands of lives every year, but far too many motorists still are not buckling up, especially at night when the risk of getting in a crash is even greater,” said **Deputy Chief Grabarek**. “Our goal is to save more lives, so **the Woodridge Police Department** will be out enforcing seat belt laws around the clock.”

Combined with the Click It or Ticket Campaign, the **Woodridge Police Department** will increase patrols to catch impaired drivers. At some point during the campaign period of May 10th to the 27th, the Woodridge Police will also conduct a Roadside Safety Check, where they will be watching for drunk drivers. Therefore, if you plan to drink, designate a sober driver, and do not drive.

For more information about the Click It or Ticket campaign, please visit www.buckleupillinois.org.

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