



Fond du Lac County Health Department

City/County Government Center
160 S. Macy St, Fond du Lac, WI 54935



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Fond du Lac County
Health Department**

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Traffic Fatalities in Fond du Lac County can be prevented by wearing seatbelts.

In 2018, there were 13 fatal traffic crashes resulting in a total of 15 traffic fatalities in Fond du Lac County. This is an increase from 11 traffic fatalities in 2017. As is the case each year, it is likely that some of these fatalities could have been prevented had the occupants worn a seatbelt.

According to the CDC, seat belts reduce serious crash-related injuries and deaths by about half. "Wearing a seatbelt continues to be one of the most effective ways to save lives and reduce injuries in crashes," said Kim Mueller, Fond du Lac County Health Officer.

Wisconsin's rate of seat belt usage has consistently been rising over the past five years. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Wisconsin seat belt use rate is 89.4%. This shows that 1 out of 10 Wisconsinites are not using their seat belts and half of those could result in death. "As we encourage everyone to wear their seatbelt and enforce the law to buckle-up while driving, our goal is not to ticket but to prevent injuries and save lives." said Sheriff Ryan Waldschmidt.

"Seat belts are your best defense against impaired, aggressive, and distracted drivers that cause crashes on our highways. In the event of a crash, not buckling up can result in being thrown into a rapidly opening air bag or being totally ejected from the vehicle causing serious injury or death. Air bags are designed to work with seat belts, not replace them." said Sheriff Waldschmidt.

Remember to buckle up every seat, every trip, every time.

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