



MINNESOTA TOWARD ZERO DEATHS

TZD Monthly Spin

NW Region May2024

Motorcycle Awareness Month

In 2022, there were 6,218 motorcyclists killed in the United States, according to NHTSA (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration). Motorcycle riders continue to be overrepresented in fatal traffic crashes. In 2022, there were 6,218 motorcyclists killed — 15% of all traffic fatalities. NHTSA data show that this is the highest number of motorcyclists killed since at least 1975. To keep everyone safe, we urge drivers and motorcyclists to share the road and be alert, and we're reminding motorcyclists to make themselves visible, to use DOT-compliant motorcycle helmets, and to always ride sober.

Per vehicle miles traveled in 2022, motorcyclists were about 22 times more likely than passenger vehicle occupants to die in a motor vehicle crash and were 4 times more likely to be injured. Safe motorcycling takes balance, coordination, and good judgment.

Safe riding practices and cooperation from all road users will help reduce the number of fatalities and injuries on our nation's highways. But it's especially important for drivers to understand the safety challenges faced by motorcyclists such as size and visibility, and motorcycle riding practices like downshifting and weaving to know how to anticipate and respond to them. By raising motorists' awareness, both drivers and riders will be safer sharing the road.

National Bike Safety Month

As you might expect, when a crash occurs between a vehicle and a bike, it's the cyclist who is most likely to be injured. In this section, you'll learn bicycle safety tips and rules of the road, from properly fitting your helmet to driving defensively and predictably. Find out what you can do to prevent bicycle injuries and deaths, and remember: A large percentage of crashes can be avoided if motorists and cyclists follow the rules of the road and watch out for each other.

NHTSA reported 1,105 bicyclists killed in traffic crashes in 2022. Bicyclist deaths are highest during the summer months between June and September and nearly three quarters of all bicyclist deaths occur in urban areas. Failing to yield the right of way is the highest factor in fatal bike crashes, followed by bicyclists not being visible.

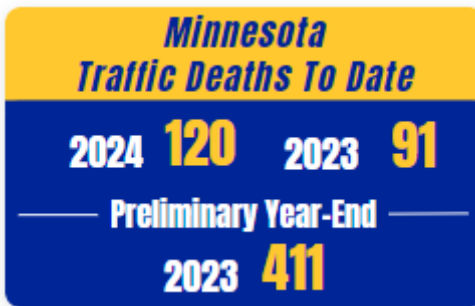
Americans are increasingly bicycling to commute, for exercise, or just for fun. Many states consider a bicycle a vehicle when it's operated on the road — and bicyclists must follow the same rules.

Ride responsibly, and remember: All states require bicyclists on the roadway to follow the same rules and responsibilities as motorists.



Enforcement Update:

- Speed: May 1-Sept 2, 2024 (covers 100 deadliest days)
- May 20-June 2—**Click It or Ticket** High Visibility Enforcement
- DWI (optional) Every Thursday-Saturday, May 9—Sept 2, 2024
- Seat belts and child restraints: May 20-June 2, 2024
- DWI: Aug 16—Sept 2, 2024



2024 Northwest Regional Workshop

On April 23, 2024, the NW Toward Zero Deaths workshop was held at the Legacy Center in Thief River Falls. The event hosted over 80 traffic safety partners and included 14 vendor booths. TZD is a national strategy on highway safety advocating for the elimination of fatalities and serious injuries on our roadways. Conference topics included: updates on the Strategic Highway Safety Plan, ATV/UTV laws and regulations, a discussion of new responsible beverage server training, follow-up of the bus stop arm grant, and a Teen TZD presentation.

During the conference, the group talked about traffic safety strategies they need to focus on the future and how to obtain the goal of zero fatalities.



Mark your Calendars!

- A—Teen TZD Conference—Evangelical Free Church in TRF
- May 12-18, 2024—National Police Week
- May 19-25—National EMS Week
- July 17, 2024—TZD Traffic Safety Hotdish (register on minnesotatzd.org/events/hotdish)
- Oct 22 & 23, 2024—TZD State Conference—St. Cloud River's Edge Convention Center

Toward Zero Deaths Northwest Regional Newsletter

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