Motor Vehicle Crash Prevention

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, **more than 20,000 people are killed** and **more than 2 million injured** each year from motor vehicle crashes. Approximately half of those killed were not wearing a seatbelt. Speeding was involved in approximately one-third of crash deaths, and drunk driving was involved in approximately another third of crash deaths. Proper use of seat belts while in a motor vehicle can reduce your risk of injury and death.

Did you know?

- Seat belts reduce serious crash-related injuries and deaths by approximately **50 percent.**
- Seat belt use saves almost **15,000 lives** each year.
- Airbags are <u>not</u> a substitute for seat belt use.

You can help prevent motor vehicle crash injuries by:

- Using a seat belt in every seat, on every trip, no matter how short.
- Requiring everyone in the car to buckle up, including those in the back seat.
- Making sure children are properly buckled up in a car seat, booster seat, or seat belt, whichever is appropriate for their age, height, and weight.
- Having all children age 12 and under sit properly buckled in the back seat.
- Never placing a rear-facing child safety seat in front of an airbag.
- Properly buckling children in the middle back seat (the safest spot in the vehicle) whenever possible.
- Choosing not to drive while impaired by alcohol or drugs and helping others to do the same.
- Obeying speed limits.
- Driving without distractions (e.g., talking on the phone, texting, eating)

Learn more about motor vehicle safety and crash prevention at *www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety*.

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