

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF  
FAIRFIELD COUNTY

Dave Phalen, Sheriff

PRESS RELEASE

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SAFE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM OF FAIRFIELD COUNTY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE- Sheriff's Office Reminds Drivers to "Buckle Up Every Trip Every Time" This Thanksgiving

[Lancaster, Ohio, November 14, 2012] As we near Thanksgiving, Safe Communities of Fairfield County and local law enforcement reminds drivers that an increase in traffic on our roadways increases the chance of crashes. Getting there safe is something to truly be thankful for, and to increase your chances you need to simply buckle your seatbelt. Front seat passengers can increase their chances of surviving a serious crash by 45% by following the advice of "Buckle Up Every Trip Every Time."

"According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), putting on your seatbelt is one of the most important things you can do to save yourself from a serious injury or death if you are involved in a crash," noted Teresa C. Carper, Director for the Safe Communities of Fairfield County program. "With the increase in traffic during the upcoming Holiday, it is more important than ever to keep safety a priority and buckle up!"

In 2010, according to NHTSA, seat belts saved nearly 12,500 lives nationally. That is why there will be extra patrols out on the highways of Fairfield County during this Holiday period. The Fairfield County Sheriff's Office will use the new High Visibility Enforcement Overtime grant (HVEO) to increase patrols in designated areas. Speed and impaired driving are also concerns of law enforcement this Holiday period; however the message that seat belt use is important is what safety advocates are pushing during the Thanksgiving Holiday.

"My deputies and I wish all members of the Fairfield County Community a joyous and SAFE Thanksgiving Holiday," stated Sheriff Dave Phalen. "Although we are noting this safety message during Thanksgiving, we suggest that everyone 'Buckle Up, Every Trip, Every Time' to improve your safety when behind the wheel or riding in a motor vehicle."

For more information on traffic safety tips and statistics, visit the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration at [www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov).

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