



Seat Belt Safety in the Workplace

Upcoming Safety Observances

July

Vehicle Theft Prevention Month

August

National Stop on Red Week
(August 1-7)

Impaired Driving National
Enforcement (Aug. 18-Sept. 6)

September

Rail Grade Crossing Campaign
(September 6-27)

Child Passenger Safety Week
(September 19-25)

National Seat Check Saturday
(September 25)

Free resources are available on the Utah NETS webpage to assist you during these observance periods.

For more information, visit UTAHSAFETYCOUNCIL.ORG or call 801.746.SAFE (7233).

When an employee's job requires use of a company vehicle, seat belt safety becomes an issue. Seat belt engagement should stand as a requirement during any use of a company vehicle. Establishing an official stance on safety belt use and communicating those expectations is key to keeping employees safe when they get behind the wheel as part of their jobs.

Purpose

Employees use a variety of company vehicles in different situations that require the use of seat belts. Some employees receive company vehicles to drive off site during the course of work. In warehouse or construction settings, employees use heavy machinery and equipment such as forklifts and bulldozers to carry out their work. Emphasizing seat belt safety prevents or reduces workplace injuries, which saves you from potential workers compensation and liability issues. You also create an environment of safety and concern for the workers, which induces a positive work environment.

Policy

A policy that defines expectations for seat belt use is essential to any work environment in which employees use company vehicles. The policy should specifically state that all employees are required to use seat belts during the course of their jobs when applicable, citing federal and state seat-belt laws to support the company policy. Federal law dictates that commercial vehicle equipped with a seat belt in the driver's seat may only be operated if the safety belt is used. Texas state law requires the use of safety belts at all times in the front seat. Impose consequences for employees who violate the policy by not properly securing their seat belts every time they operate company vehicles.

Communications

Meet with all employees to disperse information regarding the seat belt policy. Require a signed acknowledgement of the seat belt policy. A training session on seat belt safety is also an option to emphasize the significance of consistent seat belt use. Incorporate the seat belt safety into the orientation training or as yearly refresher training for all employees. If employees begin breaking the seat belt policy, send out a message reminding them of the policy as well as scheduling additional meetings or training sessions as necessary.

Checks

Spot-checking the use of seat belts encourages employees to engage the harnesses consistently. Observing the use of seat belts in equipment used in a warehouse or on a work site is the easiest type of check to perform. Tell supervisors to check for compliance on a regular basis. Issue warnings or enact other consequences as outlined in the seat belt use policy as a reminder to all employees that the requirement is a serious one.

Source: <https://smallbusiness.chron.com/seat-belt-safety-workplace-12645.html>

Start With Safety

FREE WEB-BASED SEMINARS

Seminar Time: 10:00AM MST

Start each month with the Utah Safety Council's free webinars. Join us online, where we will discuss safety topics that directly impact Utah businesses and communities with experts in the field. In addition to each months safety topic, we will share upcoming courses and help you get the most out of your Utah Safety Council Membership.

Upcoming Seminars:

August: Level Up Your Safety Program
September: Occupant Protection Safety
October: Hearing Protection and Teen Driving

[Click here to sign up](#)

Encourage Your Employees to Buckle Up

In Utah alone, we had 276 roadway fatalities in 2020. Of those 276 fatalities 61 were not wearing a seat belt. Tragically, these deaths were 100% preventable.

As employers, employees, and everyday commuters, these numbers can be reduced with education, training and awareness.

The Utah Safety Council wants to help remind your employees and customers to "Buckle Up - Every Trip, Every Time" with our new reflective parking lot signs.

Each sign is 12x9 and available for members to purchase at \$25.75 each.

For more information or to place an order, please contact Nichole Rilk at nrilk@utahsafetycouncil.org or 801.746.SAFE (7233) ext. 303.



Three Keys to Safe Driving Quiz

1. Motor vehicle crashes account for more than _____ of all work-related deaths.
 - a. 40 percent
 - b. 50 percent
 - c. 60 percent

 2. You should only drive under the influence of prescription drugs if you are sure they aren't impairing your ability.
 - a. True
 - b. False

 3. In addition to regular maintenance, a vehicle's safety-related items should be inspected _____.
 - a. Weekly
 - b. Monthly
 - c. Before each use

 4. Safe driving is an active process that requires your ongoing concentration and constant attention to be aware of upcoming hazards and the impending actions of other drivers.
 - a. True
 - b. False

 5. Which of the following is NOT a factor that controls how successful a defensive move will be in avoiding a crash?
 - a. Speed
 - b. Route planning
 - c. Following distance

 6. Which of the following impacts the safe following distance?
 - a. The traveling speed
 - b. The vehicle's weight
 - c. Braking characteristics
 - d. Current road conditions
 - e. All of the above

 7. Prior to slowing down or stopping, you should give other drivers advanced notice by briefly tapping the brake pedal.
 - a. True
 - b. False

 8. You should only drive aggressively when trying to elude another aggressive driver.
 - a. True
 - b. False
- 1)a 2) b 3) c 4)a 5)b 6)e 7)a 8)a 9)b

For more fun safety quizzes and topics go to our media library and click into our Streaming Safety Video tab and find the safety topic you want for your safety meetings. Streaming Safety Videos include safety talks and discussions, quizzes, certificates and more.

Vehicle Theft Prevention



July is National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month. To help vehicle owners keep their cars safe, the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is continuing its annual Vehicle Theft Prevention Campaign.

In 2019 alone, nearly three quarters of a million motor vehicles were stolen in the United States, costing vehicle owners more than \$6 billion. Motor vehicles include passenger cars, trucks, and multipurpose vehicles. Review these 2019 statistics on vehicle theft in the United States and NHTSA's tips on keeping your vehicle safe.

- Passenger cars made up more than 50% of all stolen motor vehicles.
- Only 56.1% of all stolen motor vehicles were recovered.
- Of all motor vehicles stolen, 74.5% were passenger vehicles.
- There were 721,885 motor vehicles stolen.
- A motor vehicle was stolen every 43.8 seconds.

Take action! Here are ways you can help prevent motor vehicle theft.

- Park in well-lit areas.
- Close and lock all windows and doors when you park.
- Put away your valuables.
- Do not leave your keys in your vehicle.
- Do not leave the area while your vehicle is running.

For more information on motor vehicle theft prevention, visit [NHTSA.gov/theft](https://www.nhtsa.gov/theft). For additional resources, visit the FBI's Motor Vehicle Theft Page

PROTECT YOUR VEHICLE FROM THEFT WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW

In 2019, there were **721,885** VEHICLES STOLEN NATIONWIDE

In 2019, thieves stole more than **\$6 BILLION** in motor vehicle value

In the United States, a vehicle is stolen every **43.8 SECONDS**

Nationally, nearly **44%** of stolen vehicles are **NOT RECOVERED**

Prevent vehicle theft:

- PARK** in well-lit areas.
- PUT** away valuables.
- LOCK** cars and windows.

DO NOT leave keys in car.
NEVER leave your vehicle while it's running.

Sources: NHTSA and FBI. Revised January 2020.

U.S. Department of Transportation
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

For more information on vehicle theft prevention and NHTSA, check out [NHTSA.gov/theft](https://www.nhtsa.gov/theft).

NHTSA
1-800-424-9393



UTAH
Safety[™]
COUNCIL

Annual Safety Awards



Ensure your organization is recognized for achievements in safety.

**Awards will be presented during our
VIRTUAL, LIVE-STREAM
Annual Meeting - August 13, 2021 - 10:00 AM**

Keynote Speaker - Rosie Rivera Salt Lake County Sheriff

Sheriff Rivera is the first female sheriff to be elected in Utah and leads based on her belief in transparency in law enforcement and public safety, as well as justice for all. We are very honored and excited to host Sheriff Rivera and we look forward to learning from her message.

Register [HERE](https://www.UTAHSAFETYCOUNCIL.ORG/membership) now, and visit [UTAHSAFETYCOUNCIL.ORG/membership](https://www.UTAHSAFETYCOUNCIL.ORG/membership) for more information.



Defensive Driving Courses for Your Employees

Improper driving is a contributing factor in OVER HALF of all motor vehicle crashes.

The National Safety Council's Defensive Driving Course (DDC) offers practical strategies to reduce collision-related injuries, fatalities and costs. It addresses the importance of attitude in preventing crashes, and reinforces good driving skills. Most importantly, DDC shows students the consequences of the choices they make behind the wheel, and puts defensive driving in a personal context.

Study after study has shown that drivers who participate in the Defensive Driving Course average fewer collisions and fewer driving arrests than drivers who do not take the course. Offered locally through the Utah Safety Council, this course has set the standard in the industry for over 40 years, and continues to improve driver behaviors.

The following options are available to utilize the Defensive Driving Course:

On-Site Defensive Driving: 4-Hour Course (DDC-4)

- Fast-paced, practical and highly effective refresher course
- Developed to meet your driver improvement and safety needs
- Taught by certified experienced instructors
- Available on-site or specially arranged at the Utah Safety Council
- Customizable in a variety of ways

In-House Defensive Driving: 4-Hour Course (DDC-4)

- Certify your current instructors as DDC instructors
- Utilize cutting edge curriculum and teaching materials
- Teach proven collision avoidance techniques
- Instill the importance of attitude in preventing crashes
- Flexibility in scheduling, location and class size.
- Purchase materials through the Utah Safety Council

Online Defensive Driving Course

- Nationally recognized program
- Locally administered and maintained
- Flexible, easy to use and available 24/7
- Engaging and interactive, with reviews at the end of each session
- Available in English and Spanish
- Course demo available upon request
- Quantity discounts available

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact Nichole Rilk, Traffic Safety Program Manager at 801.746.SAFE (7233) or by email at nrilk@utahsafetycouncil.org.



ONLINE DEFENSIVE DRIVING COURSE Producing Safer Drivers



This course offers practical strategies to reduce collision-related injuries, fatalities and costs.

The National Safety Council's Online Defensive Driving Course (DDC) addresses the importance of attitude in preventing collisions, and reinforces good driving skills. Most importantly, this course shows participants the consequences of the choices they make behind the wheel, and puts defensive driving in a personal context.

Quantity	Member	Non-Member
1-25	\$40	\$50
26-100	\$37	\$47
101-250	\$32	\$42
251+	\$27	\$37

Offered locally through the Utah Safety Council, this course has set the standard for the industry for over 40 years, and continues to improve driver behaviors. Many Utah companies train their employees to drive defensively with Online DDC.

UTAHSAFETYCOUNCIL.ORG



Online DDC is:

- Flexible and self paced
- Easy-to-use
- Engaging through the use of streaming media
- Interactive, with a review at the end of each chapter
- Locally administered and maintained

Call the Utah Safety Council today to see how we can assist you with your training needs.

Contact Nichole Rilk, Traffic Safety Program Manager at 801.746.SAFE (7233) or email traffic@utahsafetycouncil.org for more information or to purchase user IDs.

Online DDC demo available for preview. Send an email to Nichole requesting to view the online course.



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LOCAL CHAPTER

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NETS News

If you would like to submit items for use in this newsletter, send them to:

Email:
nrilk@utahsafetycouncil.org

Phone:
801.746.SAFE (7233)

**HOT CARS KILL KIDS.
DO WHATEVER IT TAKES
TO GET THEM OUT.**

**act fast.
Save a Life.**

NHTSA

**A TRAIN WILL STOP.
ABOUT A MILE AFTER IT HITS YOU.**

STOP. TRAINS CAN'T.

NHTSA SEE THE VIDEO