



Conducted through the Lorain County General Health District
9880 South Murray Ridge Road
Elyria, Ohio 44035
www.loraincountysafecommunity.com
(440) 322-6367, 244-2209, 236-8722

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FROM: Joyce Davis, C.H.E.S.
Lorain County Safe Community Coalition

RE: **Keep the Buckle Up Spirit this Homecoming Season!**

DATE: October 6, 2010

The Lorain County Safe Community Coalition wants to remind teen drivers, passengers and parents this Homecoming Season to buckle up when on the road. In the middle of fall sport season students support school athletes playing football, soccer and cross country. This makes it a great time of year to celebrate victories by **Buckling Up - Every Trip, Every Time.**

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of deaths among teens in the United States. In the United States in 2008, about 3,500 passenger vehicle occupants 15 to 19 years old were killed more than 350,000 were treated in emergency departments for injuries suffered in motor-vehicle crashes.

Lt. Travis Hughes, Ohio State Highway Patrol—Elyria Post Commander, encourages local teens to buckle up. “Wearing a seat belt significantly increases your chances of surviving a motor vehicle crash.” He states, “You wouldn’t leave home without your cell phone or house key, so don’t drive or ride without buckling up!”

In addition to buckling up far less often than adults do, teens take part in a number of risky driving habits that result in traffic crashes, including texting while driving, speeding and reckless driving.

Ohio has a zero tolerance for anyone who is unbuckled! You can avoid getting a ticket and lower your risk of getting hurt or killed by doing something simple: buckle up- every trip, every time. You can also help your family and friends lower their risk by telling them that you buckle up and encourage them to do the same.

For more information on traffic safety, visit www.loraincountysafecommunity.com.

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The Lorain County Safe Community Coalition is a group of concerned citizens, government officials, business leaders, law enforcement officers, educators, students, civic leaders, engineers, emergency personnel and medical/health professionals, that have joined together to lead Lorain County in efforts to create a safe community. The Lorain County Safe Community Coalition is partially funded by the Ohio Department of Public Safety. The Coalition is conducted through the Lorain County General Health District. For more information, contact the health district office: 440-322-6367, or visit www.loraincountysafecommunity.com.