

# SAFE K:DS GRAND FORKS

## News You Can Use



2021 Summer Edition

### Grand Forks County Sponsors Annual Water Safety Event—>Virtual Style

# SAFEKIDSWEEK



For the past 24 years, Safe Kids Grand Forks has been hosting a water safety class entitled “**Kids Don’t Float**”. This class is intended for kids in grades 2-5 and we traditionally hold 7 classes over 3 1/2 days. The training features a 45 minute interactive class on water safety topics and then the kids are divided into small groups where they participate in interactive stations to learn about hypothermia, the dangers of alcohol on one’s behavior, life jacket fitting, rescue techniques, pool safety and boating rules. Normally, many schools from the Grand Forks region attend these sessions and over 700 kids are trained in life-long water safety skills each year.

Last year, our sessions were cancelled due to Covid and this year, we feared we would not be able to host the class due to visitor restrictions at the University of North Dakota, our event site. However, we knew that these life-long skills were important for kids and we were determined to find a way to make this class happen. . . . . We decided to think outside the box and rely on what we now know how to do well- - - - -> Zoom Class!!

On May 6, as part of Safe Kids Week 2021, we hosted the Kids Don’t Float water safety class via a Zoom session and invited all the kids who would normally come, the kids who missed out on the training last year and several new schools since class size was no longer limited by space at the Hyslop. We are excited to announce that over 1600 elementary aged kids were able to participate in “Kids Don’t Float” 2021 and the reviews from the format were wonderful. While we hope to offer the class in person next year, we were thrilled to be able to make this happen in an alternative format this year. A link to the 50 minute class can be found on our webpage at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jVamb7Sijb4>

We want to thank the following partners who helped to make this program possible:

- ⇒ Grand Forks County—for your financial support of our work
- ⇒ US Army Corps of Engineers—for your training expertise and the supplies you provided for the kids “educational bags”
- ⇒ ND Game & Fish—for presenting at our class
- ⇒ Grand Forks County Sheriff’s Department—for presenting at our class
- ⇒ Swim North Dakota and UND—for presenting and for use of your pool facility
- ⇒ Grand Forks Young Professionals—for your help in putting together the educational bags for the students
- ⇒ GF Mayor Bochenski—for allowing your kids to come and be our class helpers

For more images of the class, please see page 2 of our newsletter!!





## KDF Water Safety Tips

- ⇒ ND and MN laws require all kids under age 10 to have a lifejacket on at all times when on a boat/jet ski. However, having all boat occupants in a personal flotation device is recommended.
- ⇒ Life jackets are sized by weight; be sure to check at the start of each season that your life jackets fit correctly and that they are in good working condition. While life jackets do not expire, they can lose their flotation over time so it is important to check their buoyancy before use each year. To do so, put your life jacket on and enter the water about chest/neck deep. Lift your feet from the bottom of the lake or pool and assure that the life jacket keeps you afloat. Over time, the cushions in the jacket can get old/hard and may not function well. It is better to find this out in shallow water than when out deeper. Also be sure to check each year and before use that the buckles are in good working order and there are no rips or tears in the fabric.
- ⇒ It takes THREE to ski/tube/wake surf, etc. When towing someone behind a boat or jet ski, there must be a driver and a spotter in the boat/on the jet ski. It is not only illegal to participate in these activities without a spotter, but it is also unsafe. The spotter's job is to watch the person being towed behind the boat and the driver's role is to watch activity in front of the vessel.
- ⇒ Active adult supervision is important for children and youth in and around water. This means that the adults are actively watching the kids and not napping, reading a book, visiting, using their cell phone, etc. Drowning occurs silently so careful attention to kids in the water is what will alert you to problems they may be having.
- ⇒ The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that all kids have access to swim lessons/water safety classes by at least age 5. To find classes in our area, see the list on page 3 of this newsletter and consider getting your kids signed up today.





Swimming is a life-long skill and water safety is something young children should be exposed to. Safe Kids Grand Forks encourages getting children into swim lessons at an early age (before age 5). We are fortunate in our community to have multiple lesson options for people of all ages and skill levels. These agencies are a member of Safe Kids Grand Forks and we are grateful for their partnership to teach water safety skills.

To learn more about their swim lessons, visit the following links:

<p><b>Altru Family YMCA</b>  <a href="http://www.gfymca.org">www.gfymca.org</a>  <b>701.775.2586</b></p>	<p><b>Choice Health &amp; Fitness</b>  <a href="http://www.choicehf.com">www.choicehf.com</a>  <b>701.746.2790</b></p>	<p><b>UND—Swim North Dakota</b>  <a href="http://www.fightinghawks.com">www.fightinghawks.com</a>  <b>701.775.4451</b></p>
<p><b>East Grand Forks Park District</b>  <a href="http://www.egfparkandrec.com">www.egfparkandrec.com</a>  <b>218.773.8000</b></p>	<p><b>Grand Forks Park District</b>  <a href="http://www.gfparks.org">www.gfparks.org</a>  <b>701.746.2790</b>  <b>(Aquatics Coordinator)</b></p>	
<p><a href="http://www.safekidsgf.com">www.safekidsgf.com</a>  <b>701.780.1489</b>  <b>Check out Safe Kids Grand Forks on Facebook</b></p>		



## Safe Kids & ND Game & Fish Offer Life Jacket Loaner Programs and Life Jacket Loaner Boards

If you are in need of a life jacket for a short term use, we have a few options available.

**Life Jacket Loaner Program:** These are set up for users to borrow a life jacket for up to 2 weeks (free of charge). The loaner programs are set up at partners in the region who help with filling out the paperwork and keeping track of the life jackets. To find these locations based around our region, visit:

<http://www.safekidsgf.com/WaterSafety.html#LifeJackets>

**Life Jacket Loaner Boards:** Set up in partnership with the ND Game & Fish Department, these loaner boards are right at the water's edge and can be used for the day and returned to the loaner board. New locations were set up in the following locations last year. \*\* Red Willow Resort (north of Binford, ND) \*\*\* Larimore Dam \*\* Stump Lake Park (south of Lakota, ND)

### Is my life jacket correct?

Life jackets come in sizes to fit babies through large adults. They are intended to keep you afloat in lakes, rivers, pools and other bodies of water. Worn correctly, they work!

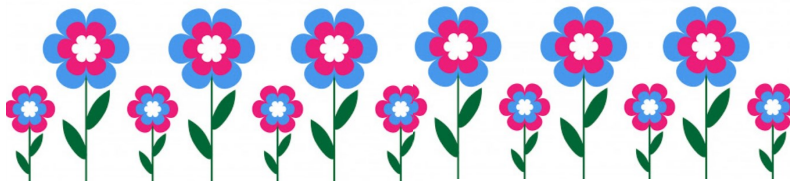


Game and Fish



# Safe Kids Grand Forks Wishes Safe Kids Fargo-Moorhead Colleague Well In Her New Position

Beth Oestreich, Coordinator of Safe Kids Fargo-Moorhead, has taken a new position with the North Dakota Department of Health as their Injury Prevention Program Director. We here at Safe Kids Grant Forks want to wish her well in her new position and she will be greatly missed. Beth has been the Coordinator at Safe Kids Fargo-Moorhead for 8 years and has done amazing work during her time there. As she takes her new position at the ND Department of Health, we at Safe Kids Grand Forks look forward to working with her in her new role. Her last day at Safe Kids FM will be June 18th and we look forward to welcoming her replacement as the new Coordinator. Please join us in wishing Beth well in her new position and we thank her for her many years of service with Safe Kids FM.



## 2021 Medication Take Back Events

Did you know that medications are the leading cause of poisoning in young children? Knowing that has caused us to find ways to get expired or unused medications out of the home setting to make them a little bit safer for young children. Several years ago, we started hosting drive up/drop off medication take back events in partnership with Altru Health System, the Grand Forks Sheriff's Department and Safe Kids Grand Forks.

The remaining dates for the 2021 events will be as follows:

**June 8 - September 21**

We will host these events in the Hugo's parking lot on Columbia Road from 8 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Medications can be kept in their original container and labels do not need to be removed. As we get closer to these events, we hope you will clean out your medicine cabinets and bring pills, liquids, patches, ointments, etc. for disposal.





# Featured Car Seat - Maxi Cosi Coral XP

## Designed for giving parents an extra hand.

It's just like any other car seat, except, well, it's not. Because from the car seat you can pull out a light-weight carrier, throw its strap over your shoulder, and walk around with freedom and ease. And, whenever you're done doing whatever you're doing, you can bring that inner carrier back, clip it into the car seat or stroller and get back on your way – safely.

The Coral™ XP is the first-ever integrated car seat and carrier nesting system that's built to help parents move about effortlessly. The Coral™ XP revolutionary keep-close lightweight inner carrier (weighing in at about 5 lbs.) can be easily removed from the car seat's outer carrier shell with the push of a button along with the use of the padded retractable side handles. And, with a specially designed, first-of-its-kind cross-body flex-strap, the Coral™ XP lets you go through your day with ease, so you can get things done, and pinch those cheeks and toes every chance you get.

## From car seat to carrier. Just like that.

The unique 3-Part modular nesting system is comprised of a car seat base, car seat outer shell and keep-close inner carrier offering you enhanced flexibility for daily activities. And, with 4 Modes of Carry inclusive of Cross-Body Carry, Handle Carry, Standard Carry and Stroller Carry, you can feel free to move how you want to move. Whether you're running quickly into the store, trying to make it from the car in one trip, or you've finally got a sleeping baby, the Coral™ XP makes the transition from car seat to wherever you are going seamless.

Retail \$399.99

## 3-Piece Modular Nesting System



# Abbey's Hope: Bringing Water Safety Messages To Others Amid the Loss of a Beloved Little One



In June of 2007, six-year old Abigail Taylor suffered a horrific injury while swimming in a public pool. That injury ultimately took her life. Abbey was playing in a wading pool when she unknowingly sat on a drain that was poorly maintained and unequipped with the appropriate safety devices. The powerful suction of the pool eviscerated Abbey. Her small intestine was ripped from her body. The serious injury was followed by 9 months of medical care, including 16 different surgeries, many organ transplants, several infections and many, many nights spent in a hospital bed. Despite the best medical care and attention, Abbey died.

Abbey's hope was that no child should ever suffer like she did as a result of an improperly maintained pool. In her memory and in response to their daughter's stated wish, her parents, Scott and Katey Taylor, established the Abbey's Hope Charitable Foundation. The Foundation works every day to make sure that all pools, both public and private, are safe.

Since the Foundation's inception, it has helped the Minnesota State Legislature craft and pass the *Abigail Taylor Pool & Spa Safety Act* that requires all public pools in the state to be equipped with safety devices that help prevent entrapments and eviscerations. The Foundation has also worked with the United States Congress to pass the *Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act (VGB)*, which does for the nation's public pools what the *Abigail Taylor Pool & Spa Safety Act* does for Minnesota pools.

The law requires manufacturers of anti-entrapment drain covers to provide a "life span" for each cover. The expiration date is required because pool chemicals, UV rays and ordinary wear and tear can break down the plastic and screws. Drains, overtime or past their expiration dates, can become ineffective or easily break, making them a life-threatening danger to any child in the pool.

According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission, there has not been a single death in a public pool or spa due to entrapment, entanglement, or evisceration since *VGB* went into effect. In order to continue preventing preventable deaths, Abbey's Hope recommends that drain covers be replaced as pools are maintained during the off-season. Public pool and spa operators should replace expired drain covers even if they look fine.

Today, several years after Abbey's tragic death and after the passage of *VGB*, Abbey's Hope continues to work to prevent the preventable. To that end, Abbey's Hope wants to remind parents, caregivers and pool and spa owners and operators that they too play an important role in protecting kids from drowning and entrapments:

**Teach swimming and lifesaving skills-** Make sure children know how to swim, float, tread water and get in and out of the pool safely. The importance of swimming lessons in saving lives cannot be overstated.

**Learn CPR-** Cardiac arrests are more common than you think, and they can happen at anytime and any place, including public or private pools due to a near-drowning. There are approximately 383,000 cardiac arrests each year, and 88% of them happen at home. *Why risk being ill prepared if the tragic happened to someone right in front of your eyes?*

Effective bystander, hands-only, CPR provided immediately after a sudden cardiac arrest can triple a victim's chance of survival. Hands-only CPR (CPR with just chest compressions) has been proven to be as effective as CPR with breaths in treating adult cardiac arrest victims. Parents should take classes in First Aid as well.

**Install barriers-** An average of 280 children under the age of five drown each year in swimming pools, and far too many of those deaths are in inexpensive, inflatable





pools that have been incorrectly deemed less dangerous than pools with a “deep end.”

Inflatable pools that are about 2-feet deep can cost as little as \$50, and larger pools that are up to 4-feet deep and 18-feet wide can cost under \$400. The price makes these pools easily accessible to parents and the low barrier to entry makes them easily accessible to children. The sides of inflatable pools are flexible, often slanted and low, making it easy for a child to quickly climb in without supervision.

All backyard pools should be fenced on all sides with a four-to-five foot high fence. Gates should be self-latching and locking. Spas and hot tubs should be covered and locked when not in use.

**Avoid dangerous drains-** If loose, missing or broken drain covers are spotted, pool or spa operators should be notified immediately. Tie up long hair or secure hair with a swim cap. Warn children to stay away from drains or other openings.

**Be vigilant-** Make sure an adult is watching children in the pool, spa and open bodies of water at all times.

Abbey's Hope strongly recommends that parents share water supervision responsibilities with other parents, which is why the foundation created the "Water Watchdog Tag" system. The supervising parent or adult wears the "Water Watchdog Tag" until he or she passes the responsibility and the tag on the next parent or adult.

#### The adult wearing the tag pledges:

- To maintain constant visual contact with the children in the designated group (even if a lifeguard is present).
- Not to drink alcohol, use a phone, socialize or read while watching children.
- To keep a phone near the water for emergency purposes.

Remain by the water until relieved by a new Water Watchdog.

To receive a free Water Watchdog tag, go the [Abbey'sHope.org](http://Abbey'sHope.org) and sign the pledge to protect children. Together, with the proper education and safety precautions, we can prevent the preventable.

#### **About Abbey's Hope:**

Abbey's Hope Charitable Foundation is a Minnesota nonprofit organization named after Abbey Taylor, the Edina, Minn., 6-year-old who died in 2008 as a result of injuries sustained in an improperly maintained pool drain cover.

The Foundation's goal is to:

- Promote awareness of and education related to child safety issues, including educating pool owners, operators, inspectors, and the general public about the dangers of pool entrapment, evisceration and drowning and the need for physical inspections of pool equipment.
- Work with the pool and spa industry to improve the design of its products, packaging and warning labels, and assist in the development of product safety standards related to such products.
- Partner with the community to develop a culture of water safety. Utilizing connections to city employees, first responders, and community activists to create a safer water culture.

Identify and provide support and assistance to organizations and programs that help educate parents, children, and pool and spa manufacturers about the prevention of entrapment and traditional forms of drowning.

Find out more about Abbey's Hope at <http://abbeyshope.org>. Or reach out to Alison Petri, Abbey's Hope Program Manager at [alison@abbeyshope.org](mailto:alison@abbeyshope.org).



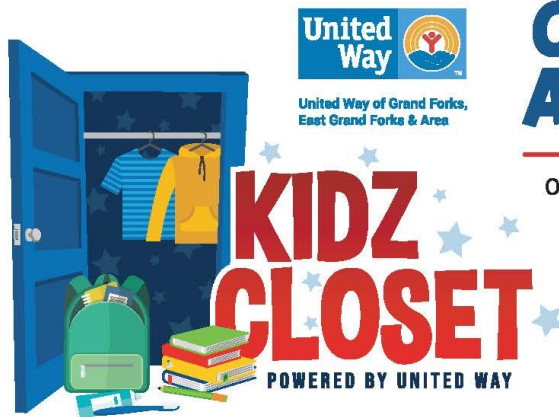
# Coming Again This Fall. . . . Adaptive Aquatics Classes

As things begin to return to normal following the Covid pandemic, we are pleased to announce that we will again be able to offer our Adaptive Aquatics Classes at the University of North Dakota pool. These classes were put on hold due to coronavirus and the safety practices surrounding that worldwide pandemic. But, we know the importance of water safety and teaching children of all ages and abilities how to be safe in and around water. We have been eager to get these classes restarted!!

We are working on our fall schedule and hope to have the dates and times confirmed by mid summer. These will be posted on our web page, on our Facebook page and can be emailed to anyone wanting more information on these classes. To be added to our mailing list for the flyer, please send a message to [safekids@altru.org](mailto:safekids@altru.org) and we will provide you the class information as soon as it has been finalized.



We are grateful to UND and Swim ND for providing these courses and to Little Miracles, Inc. They are a financial supporter of Safe Kids Grand Forks and their generosity helps assure that the work of Safe Kids Grand Forks continues in our community and region. Thank you, Little Miracles, Inc!!



## CHILDREN'S ITEMS AVAILABLE FOR FREE!

Our Kidz Closet provides essential everyday items to children in need. These items are provided to families free of charge.

*Available items include:*



Clothing



Hygiene Products



Schools Supplies



Infant Care Items

**TO APPLY FOR THE KIDZ CLOSET CALL: 701.775.8661 or visit [givefegf.org/kidz-closet](https://www.givefegf.org/kidz-closet)**



Want more safety tips, announcements about upcoming events and links to great resources?

Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/safekidsgf/>



# Smart Sitter

## BABYSITTING CLASS

### 2021 Dates

May 22 | Aug 7 | Nov 20

9:00am-2:30pm

Grand Forks, ND

Cost: \$50 (lunch included, but please bring a water bottle and snack

**Registration is required 5 days prior to class date and class size is limited.**

To register, please call 701.780.1400

For additional upcoming dates visit [safekidsgf.com](http://safekidsgf.com)



*This class has been funded in part by a generous donation from the Lunn Family, given in honor and memory of Cynthia Lunn.*

SMART SITTER is a babysitting class designed by Safe Kids Grand Forks to teach 12-15 year olds about the responsibilities of caring for other children. Attendees also receive an introduction to First Aid procedures and CPR. A certificate of completion and a course manual will be provided.



**SAFE  
K:DS  
GRAND FORKS**

**Altru**<sup>®</sup>  
HEALTH SYSTEM

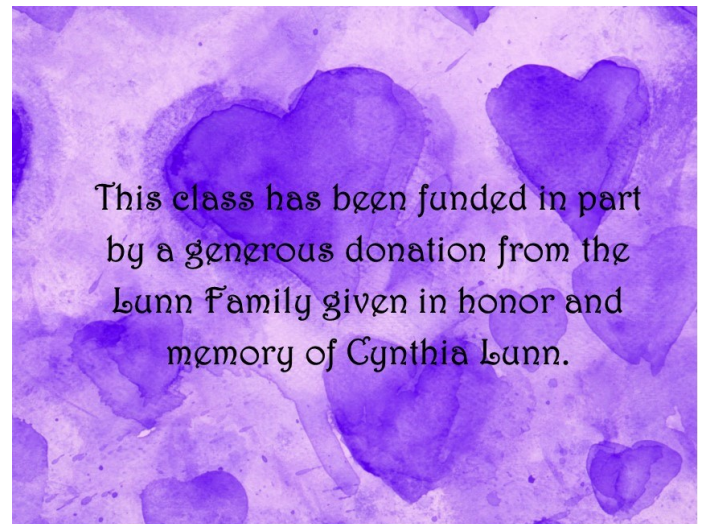
Thanks to the generosity of the Lunn Family, we have been able to offer this class in Grand Forks and around the region. This spring, the class was held in Larimore and offered in Langdon. We also have classes coming up in the following communities throughout the summer. Please check out our web page for more details on how to register for the Grand Forks or regional classes:

6.26—Cavalier, ND

6.29—Lancaster, MN

8.10—Warren, MN

\*\* Please check our web and FB pages periodically as more class may get scheduled in other locations. Interested in having a class in your community? Call our office to see how we may be able to assist!!



# VISION ZERO

Zero fatalities. Zero excuses.

MOTORCYCLE SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH



## CAUGHT IN THE BLIND SPOT

BY KAITLIN ATKINSON

As seasons steadily change, so do modes of transportation. When spring is in the air, motorcycles are everywhere! All motorists play a key role in keeping other motorists safe, even when they are on 2 wheels.

Over the last 5 years, the North Dakota Department of Transportation reports that there have been 1,169 crashes involving motorcycles and have accounted for 60 fatalities and 967 injuries from 2015 to 2019 (1).

Motorcyclists are one of the most vulnerable vehicles on the road due to size of the motorcycle in comparison to the size of most other vehicles on the road, as well as the lack of a protective layer between the operator and other vehicles.

## TIPS TO KEEP MOTORCYCLISTS SAFE

**Adjust your mirrors** to reduce blind spots, and always check over your shoulder before switching lanes.

**Check twice at intersections** where it is hard to see oncoming traffic. Motorcycles are not always visible.

**Maintain a safe speed** and go with the flow of traffic to minimize lane changes and reduce risk.

**Keep your concentration** focused on the road and be observant of your surroundings. .

**Motorcycles often move within** the lane to make sure they stay out of your blind spot, so remain aware.

**Motorcyclists use engine braking** instead of applying their brakes. When done, no brake lights are signaled. Stay focused on the road to see if others are slowing down.

**Take extra caution** to watch for motorcycles at all times. Sun, fog, rain, traffic, trees, construction, and curves in the road can make it harder to see motorcycles.

**Share the road.** Allow motorcycles the full lane width at all times.

**Always assume motorcycles are closer** than they appear. Their safety and yours rely on it. (2)

**Know your right of way.** When motorcycles and other vehicles collide, it is usually the other (non-motorcycle) driver who violates the motorcyclist's right-of-way because the driver does not see the motorcycle. (3)

1. <https://www.dot.nd.gov/divisions/safety/crashdashboard.htm#CrashDashboardAdditionalData>  
2. [https://www.msf-usa.org/downloads/Motorist\\_Awareness\\_tips.pdf](https://www.msf-usa.org/downloads/Motorist_Awareness_tips.pdf)  
3. <https://www.nsc.org/road-safety/safety-topics/motorcycle-safety>







# PORTABLE AND ABOVE-GROUND POOL STATS

Number of drowning incidents in portable and above-ground pools:

94%

5 years old and under

73%

Occurred in the child's yard



A child dies every five days in portable pools during warm-weather months.

How to prevent drowning incidents?



Active adult supervision



Isolation fencing & Pool Alarm



Remove toys from pool

Source: Pediatric Submersion Events in Portable Above-Ground Pools in the United States, 2001-2009. Pediatrics Journal.

Drowning won't stop, so neither will we!

ndpa.org



# ABOVE GROUND POOLS

SAFETY TIPS



**FENCE IT.**

**RESTRICT ACCESS TO THE POOL**

The fence should surround the entire pool as well as the ladder/stairs leading to it.

**INSTALL AN ALARM.**

**KNOW IF SOMEONE IS IN THE POOL**

Be made aware immediately if children, pets or just plain trespassers have gained access to your pool.



**INSTALL A LADDER.**

**ENSURES SAFE ENTRY AND EXIT**

Keep them in when the pool is in use and immediately remove them when not in use.

**VISIBLE SAFETY SIGNS.**

**TO MAKE SURE ALL POOL USERS KNOW:**

Depth of pool, diving is not allowed, no running when wet, no eating in the pool and any other rules you want users to follow.



**CONSTANT ACTIVE SUPERVISION.**

**ACCOMPANIED WITH OTHER LAYERS OF PROTECTION**

If there is an accidental lapse in supervision, ensuring other layers are in place can be the difference between life and death.



**NDPA**  
NATIONAL DROWNING  
PREVENTION ALLIANCE

ndpa.org

**Phone:** 701-772-5684 **Website:** randy@rfenley.com

**Address:** 2750 26th Street S, Suite A, Grand Forks, ND 58201



Stay Connected:     

### QUOTES FOR GOOD

The Randy Fenley State Farm Agency is proud to partner with Safe Kids Grand Forks in our mission to improve child safety. The Fenley agency will donate **\$10 for every auto quote** provided during 2020 when you mention “Quotes for Good”. These dollars will be used for the many Safe Kids programs that improve the safety and well-being of our community and region.

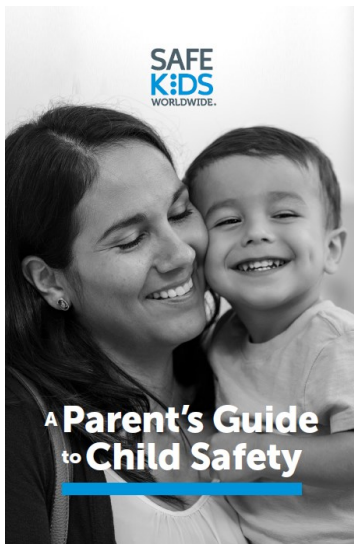
Call Randy for your free quote today.

**Randy Fenley**  
Owner



## United Way Provides Partnership with SKGF to Assist With Car Seats For Those In Need

The United Way of Grand Forks, East Grand Forks & Area and Safe Kids Grand Forks are excited to announce the launch of their new program Car Seats for Kids. Car Seats for Kids is a collaboration between the two agencies that will ensure children are kept safe when traveling in a vehicle. Thanks to a generous donation from United Way, Safe Kids is able to provide car seats to families in need at little to no cost. To apply for a car seat, please contact Safe Kids at 701.780.1489. Together, we are fueling opportunities to thrive!



**“Being a parent is the most important job you will ever have and it comes with the least amount of orientation.”**

Carma Hanson—Coordinator, Safe Kids Grand Forks

Our parent organization, Safe Kids Worldwide, is always working hard to find ways to provide resources to parents and caregivers to help make keeping their kids safer a little bit easier. This summer, they launched a new tool called “A Parent’s Guide to Child Safety”. This toolkit provides a room-by-room, risk area guide for ways to keep your children safe from a whole host of injury areas. In some ways, this serves as bit of an “orientation binder” for parenting. Check it out on their web page at <https://www.safekids.org/parents-guide-child-safety>



# Alarming Number of Cars Stolen with Kids Inside

Things can go wrong in mere seconds when a child is left alone in a vehicle



Cars are being stolen with children alone in the back seat all over the country far too often and in some of the most unexpected places. Families are being traumatized and expensive AMBER Alerts are being issued as a result of these easily preventable incidents.

In February of this year, KidsAndCars.org documented 17 children (+ 4 cases involving dogs) who were taken in a stolen vehicle, one resulting in the tragic death of a teen. In 2019, KidsAndCars.org documented over 200 children taken in stolen vehicles nationwide.

Thieves watch for vehicles to be left unattended with the engine running or the keys inside. Most of the time, they don't realize that there is a child inside until after they have stolen the vehicle. Car thefts happen even in the safest neighborhoods, outside homes, convenience stores, grocery stores, daycares, restaurants, etc. It only takes a few seconds for a car thief to jump into a vehicle and be

gone. Children and pets should *never* be left alone inside of a vehicle, not even for a minute.

“Although the victims of these types of incidents typically survive, it is incredibly distressing for everyone involved. Because this is easily preventable, we can avoid the unnecessary trauma and use of precious law enforcement resources by simply never leaving children alone in vehicles.” said Janette Fennell, president and founder of KidsAndCars.org.

On February 6, a 13-year-old **Wichita, KS** girl was dragged to death trying to escape the backseat of her family SUV that was stolen while her family went inside to grab food. Below are the details on the cases KidsAndCars.org documented from that month alone.

Date	City	State	Victims	Location of theft / Notes
2/28/21	Chicago	IL	Children (5) (7)	Parked on street, kids called mom from tablet, found shortly after
2/24/21	Renton	WA	Girl (5)	Grocery store, AMBER Alert, found unharmed
2/17/21	Cleveland	OH	Girl (3), Boy (4)	Parked on street, thief left children along road nearby
2/16/21	St. Paul	MN	Children (2) (4)	Apartment, thief left children outside in cold
2/16/21	Valrico	FL	Girl (1)	Driveway of residence, found 2 hours later,
2/15/21	Honolulu	HI	Infant	Gas station, found along road shortly after
2/12/21	Madison	WI	Child	Restaurant, thief abandoned child in car nearby minutes later
2/9/21	Columbus	OH	Boy (4 mos)	Daycare, AMBER Alert
2/9/21	Cayce	SC	Girl (2) + puppy	Hotel circle drive, found 3 hours later 11 miles away in car
2/7/21	St. Paul	MN	Girl (6)	Walgreens, thief left girl in car a few blocks away
2/6/21	San Francisco	CA	Girl (4), Boy (1)	Residence, AMBER Alert issued, children found 4 hours later
2/6/21	Minneapolis	MN	Boy (1)	Church, AMBER Alert, found nearby 2.5 hours later
2/6/21	Wichita	KS	Girl (13)	Restaurant, <b>FATAL</b>

## The cost of car theft

In 2018 alone, 748,841 vehicles were stolen in the United States, costing vehicle owners more than \$6 billion according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

AMBER Alerts and extensive search operations for car theft kidnapping cases have cost taxpayers millions of dollars. One estimate out of Memphis, TN reported the cost to be over \$71,000 in the search for a missing baby taken in a vehicle in March, 2018. Most importantly, the safety and well-being of children is priceless.

(Continued on page 14)





## State Laws

There are currently [21 states](#) that have laws making it illegal to leave children unattended inside vehicles. However, it is important for parents and caregivers to understand that in any state, a person can face child endangerment or neglect charges for leaving a child alone in a vehicle, even if the state does not have a law specifically making it illegal.

Additionally, at least 30 states and some municipalities have varying laws making it illegal to leave vehicles running unattended. These are commonly referred to as anti-idling laws and also help protect the environment.

## Tips for parents and caregivers:

- ⇒ Never leave a child alone in a vehicle, not even for a minute.
- ⇒ If you see a child alone in a vehicle, get involved. Call 911 immediately. If the child is in distress, get them out of the vehicle as quickly as possible.
- ⇒ Utilize drive-thru or curbside services that don't require you to leave your vehicle
- ⇒ If a business doesn't offer curbside delivery, call upon arrival and ask them to bring your order to your car. Most people are more than happy to accommodate when you tell them you have small children.
- ⇒ Keep car doors locked every time you step away from your vehicle and any time you're sitting inside a parked car.
- ⇒ Understand that a running vehicle can be driven away even if the key fob is not inside the vehicle.

There are far too many devastating tragedies that could have easily been prevented had a child not been left alone in a vehicle. Besides being abducted during a car theft, children are injured by [knocking cars into gear](#), suffer from [heatstroke](#), become strangled by [power windows](#) and seat belts, start car fires, exit the vehicle and are run over, etc.

For more information on the dangers children face when left alone in vehicles, please visit our [website](#). [KidsAndCars.org](#), a national nonprofit dedicated to saving the lives of young children and pets in and around vehicles.



This summer, teach kids, especially teens about the dangers of using gasoline to start or accelerate a fire. Gasoline is combustible and will blow up very quickly when it comes in contact with fire. This could result in tragic burns to the hands, face and body and even death from fire injuries. Instead, buy wood sticks soaked in a flammable material or make your own fire starters by pouring wood chips or sawdust into a paper cup and setting it below your logs you want to burn.



## Car Seat Tech Corner

Summer is upon us and we will start seeing a rise in heatstroke related deaths of children being left/ forgotten in a car or kids getting into a parked car and unable to get out. As a car seat tech, this is important information to talk to caregivers about... always check in the back seat for a child when you get out of the car. Children are most often forgotten in the car when there is a change in the caregivers normal routine. Urge parents to ask their daycare provider to call them if they haven't dropped their child off by their regular time, create reminders, etc.

If you are wanting resources to share with caregivers or your local newspapers and radio stations, please check out the Child Passenger Safety section at <http://safekidsgf.com/safety.html>.

*This article is designed for nationally certified child passenger safety technicians, also known as car seat techs. If you have an interest in learning more about car seats and would like to become a car seat tech, please contact Jasmine at [jwangen@altru.org](mailto:jwangen@altru.org) or 701.780.1660. Classes are held once per year in our Grand Forks coverage area.*

**IN JUST 10 MINUTES,  
A CAR CAN HEAT UP BY  
20 DEGREES & BECOME DEADLY.**

**NHTSA where's baby?**  
Look before you lock.

Source: CCM, San Jose State University Department of Meteorology & Climate Science

**FROM 1998 TO 2018,  
795 CHILDREN HAVE  
DIED FROM HEATSTROKE IN HOT CARS.**

**NHTSA where's baby?**  
Look before you lock.

Source: CCM, San Jose State University Department of Meteorology & Climate Science

**A CHILD'S BODY TEMP  
RISES 3 TO 5 TIMES  
FASTER THAN AN ADULT'S.**

**NHTSA where's baby?**  
Look before you lock.

Source: CCM, San Jose State University Department of Meteorology & Climate Science

**WHEN A CHILD'S  
CORE TEMP REACHES 107°,  
THEY DIE.**

**NHTSA where's baby?**  
Look before you lock.

Source: CCM, San Jose State University Department of Meteorology & Climate Science



**VISION ZERO** 

Zero fatalities. Zero excuses.



# C.A.R.S. Classes Set to Resume

As with many things, our C.A.R.S. classes offered for MN childcare providers, foster parents and law enforcement officers had to be put on hold when Covid-19 struck. We have officially received notification that we can resume those classes and have set forth the following schedule. We are grateful to the MN Office of Traffic Safety for a grant that allows us to hold these classes free of charge to attendees. Registration is required at least 1-week ahead of time to secure your place in the class. We also have a class scheduled in Ada on June 17, Roseau on July 1 and Hallock on July 28. Visit our web page for more details.

## C.A.R.S (Children & Restraint Systems) Class

### 2021 Training Schedule



If you are a child care provider or foster parent, safe transportation of children in your care is important. Come find out how to keep kids safe while in the car. The C.A.R.S. (Children and Restraint Systems) class is designed to meet the MN CPS course requirements for licensure & foster parenting and for law enforcement requirements.

It has been approved for Develop credit hours in MN and Growing Futures credits in ND. Safe Kids Grand Forks will NOT be providing class participants with Certificates of Completion. Attendance will be marked complete through the Develop website. ([developoolmn.org](http://developoolmn.org))

Please provide your Develop ID number when registering to receive credit.

Please register at least 2 weeks prior to the class.

June 8, 2021 (Tuesday) 6 pm—9:30 pm

July 13, 2021 (Tuesday) 6 pm—9:30 pm

August 17, 2021 (Tuesday) 6 pm—9:30 pm

September 14, 2021 (Tuesday) 6 pm—9:30 pm

October 2, 2021 (Saturday) 9 am—12:30 pm

November 9, 2021 (Tuesday) 6 pm—9:30 pm

December 4, 2021 (Saturday) 9 am—12:30 pm



There is no cost to register for the classes in June—September because of grant funding from the Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety (potentially for the rest of the year pending further grant funding).

Registration can be done online at <https://bit.ly/3eC8xWc>

We reserve the right to cancel any classes with less than 6 participants. Participants will be notified 1 week before class if it is cancelled.

All classes are held at the Safe Kids Grand Forks Headquarters, unless otherwise notified.

Altru Clinic in East Grand Forks, Lower Level—607 DeMers Ave., East Grand Forks, MN





# Farm Safety

Farming is a huge part of our economy in the Midwest and farms and ranches are scattered about our states' horizon. Spring, summer and fall are especially busy times on the farm and it is so important to keep safety in the front of one's mind during each season. Here are a few tips to help keep your family farm a safe place for people of all ages:

- ⇒ Set boundaries for kids and give them safe places to play. Consider a fenced in area of the yard or define play places far away from moving trucks, tractors and other equipment.
- ⇒ Watch for kids that may follow mom or dad out to the farmyard. Look around equipment before moving it to assure that young kids that may be around are not hiding in the equipment's blind zones.
- ⇒ Watch for low areas where water may accumulate following rain storms. Drowning can occur in as little as an inch or two of water and really young kids don't have the upper body strength to get themselves out of many places where water may have gathered (buckets, ditches, animal watering tanks, etc.)
- ⇒ Keep young kids away from grain augers and grain bins.

Assure that adults climbing into grain bins have a safety harness in use at all times.

- ⇒ While farm animals can be attractive to young kids, help them understand the dangers that they can pose, especially if a protective mother is watching guard over her young offspring.
- ⇒ Keep kids under age 16 off ATV's that can pose a danger of tipping on uneven surfaces. These vehicles can be very heavy and younger kids usually don't have enough upper body strength to bring a tipping ATV to an upright position.

These farm safety tips are shared by Safe Kids Grand Forks and our partners at AgCountry.



## FIRE SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY PLEASE DO YOUR PART!



**FIRE  
PREVENTION  
WHEN USING  
OFF-HIGHWAY  
VEHICLES**

- Be sure chains and other metal parts aren't dragging from your vehicle—they throw sparks.
- Check your tire pressure. Driving on an exposed wheel rim can cause sparks.
- Stay on trails and avoid riding or parking in tall grass. Hot exhaust pipes can start the grass on fire. You may not even notice the fire until it's too late.
- Never let your brake pads wear too thin; metal on metal makes sparks.
- Make sure your spark arrester is installed and free of carbon build up.
- Riders should carry a shovel and a water source or fire extinguisher when operating in high or extremely high fire conditions.

701.328.5357 | [parkrec@nd.gov](mailto:parkrec@nd.gov)  
[www.parkrec.nd.gov](http://www.parkrec.nd.gov)

NORTH  
**Dakota** | Parks & Recreation  
Be Legendary.™





Are you ready to  
stay home alone?

**July 17 | September 4 | December 11**

**9am-Noon OR 1-4pm**

**Grand Forks, ND**

Help your 8-12 year old prepare for independence with this class created by Safe Kids Grand Forks. Drop your child off and they will learn:

- » Fire escape and severe weather planning
- » When to answer the door and the phone
- » Getting to and from school safely
- » Medication safety, first aid and Heimlich maneuver
- » Reasons to call 911
- » Cooking safety
- » Setting house rules
- » And much more!



*This class is funded in part by a generous donation from Dakota Commercial.*

**SAFE  
K:DS  
GRAND FORKS**

**Register online at <https://bit.ly/3uhxhtp>**





# Be Doggone Smart

Learn to speak dog and teach others.

Pet only happy dogs. Ask permission.

Learn how to Be a Tree  
so a dog goes away.



doggone  
**safe**

doggonesafe.com



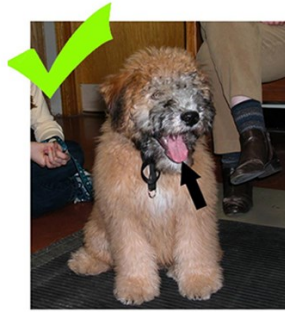
Stop



Fold your  
branches



Watch your  
roots grow  
and count in  
your head until  
help comes



Relaxed, happy dog.



Mouth closed, tail up,  
intense expression.

photos courtesy of the Doggone Crazy! board game [www.doggonecrazy.ca](http://www.doggonecrazy.ca)

**Dogs communicate with body language. Be a Dog Detective. Look for clues that tell you how the dog is feeling before petting any dog, even your own dog or dogs that you know.** © Doggone Safe



## ATV SAFETY

Due to the size and speed of ATV's, the American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children and youth under age 16 should not ride on an adult sized ATV. If they ride on youth sized ones, be sure they have a helmet and chest protector and have taken an ATV safety course.

This message is brought to you by AgCountry &  
Safe Kids Grand Forks

**SAFE  
K:DS**  
GRAND FORKS



**AgCountry**  
Farm Credit Services

**AgCountry**  
Farm Credit Services

We are grateful to AgCountry for their support of our farm and ATV safety work. It is amazing to have partners in injury prevention who are as passionate about this work as we are at Safe Kids. We thank you for your partnership and financial support of our work!!



# WE HAVE DEFENSIVE DRIVING CLASSES FOR ANY AGE!



Whether you've been driving for 2 years or 52 years, North Dakota Safety Council's Defensive Driving courses will equip you with the tools to arrive home safely.

*Both courses may qualify for an insurance discount and a point reduction!*

Register at  
**NDSC.ORG**

**VISION ZERO**  
Zero fatalities. Zero excuses.

**TRAFFIC SAFETY**

**NDSC**  
NORTH DAKOTA SAFETY COUNCIL  
A private non-profit.

## YOUNG DRIVERS

Teen drivers account for only 5% of licensed drivers, but were involved in nearly 20% of all crashes\*. This course is designed for the unique challenges of younger drivers. It also serves as a great benefit for employees who have young drivers at home!

### Alive At 25 Defensive Driving Course

*In-Person*

May 16, 1:00pm - 5:30pm, Grand Forks

August 22, 1:00pm - 5:30pm, Grand Forks

*Distance-Learning*

May 23, 4:00pm - 8:00pm, Virtual

Check [ndsc.org](http://ndsc.org) for additional dates

\*Source: NDDOT 2018 Crash Summary Fast Facts

## EXPERIENCED DRIVERS

DDC delivers the highest level of research-driven content, defensive driving strategies, hazard recognition and learner retention exercises.

### Defensive Driving 4-hour Course

*In-Person*

May 18, 6:00pm - 10:00pm, Fargo

July 27, 6:00pm - 10:00pm, Fargo

July 31, 9:00am - 1:00pm, Grand Forks

*Distance-Learning*

May 10, 6:00pm - 10:00pm, Virtual

Check [ndsc.org](http://ndsc.org) for additional dates

Also available as an online course!

## THE Parent Pep Talk

ADVICE AND UNDERSTANDING FROM PARENTS, PROS AND KIDS



The Parent Pep Talk is a heartfelt and humorous podcast filled with advice and understanding from empathetic experts, honest parents, and teens who are willing to talk. It's for all parents looking for a little perspective, a few well-tested tips, and the feeling that you're probably doing a lot better than you think, even if it doesn't always feel like it. The Parent Pep Talk is brought to you by Safe Kids Worldwide and more information can be found at this link or by downloading Parent Pep Talk in your podcast app.

<http://www.parentpeptalk.org/>

**SAFE KIDS**  
WORLDWIDE™

**Altru** HEALTH SYSTEM

**SAFE KIDS**  
GRAND FORKS

Congratulations, Amy Covington! We are proud of you!

North Dakota Car Seat Technician of the Year Award

Winner presented by ND Vision Zero



**VISION ZERO**  
Zero fatalities. Zero excuses.





**I Got Caught!**

# 3 Steps to Safe Summer Fun!

## 1) Wear a Helmet

During the long days of summer upon us, children across North Dakota and Minnesota become more active outside with bicycles, skateboards, inline skates and scooters. While these activities can provide good exercise, they also require a level of safety. It's a fact helmets save lives and reduce injuries. That's why AAA-The Auto Club Group has partnered with DQ® Restaurants in North Dakota and Minnesota; law enforcement agencies in both states; and Safe Kids coalitions for AAA's "I Got Caught" program.

## 2) Get Caught

During the summer months, children across the state will be rewarded with a free small DQ® cone when spotted wearing a helmet by a law enforcement officer in participating communities. When "caught", law enforcement will "cite" the child by issuing them a mock "ticket". The ticket can be redeemed for a free small cone at participating DQ® restaurants.

## 3) Go to Dairy Queen®!

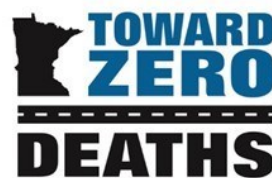
To find a DQ® restaurant near you, visit [DairyQueen.com](http://DairyQueen.com).



EXPECT SOMETHING MORE™



HAPPY TASTES GOOD





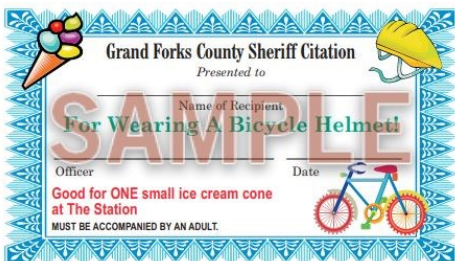
**“The only time you know you are going to be in a crash is a second before it happens!!”:  
Young Grand Forks Student Recalls His Scary Bike Crash & Reminds People of the Importance  
of Helmets**



It was a normal day for 5<sup>th</sup> grader Ethan as he went to play at the park at his elementary school. He couldn't find his normal helmet, but Ethan knows it's important to wear a helmet every time he's on his bike, so he grabbed one of his old ones and left for the park. As he was leaving to go home, he was riding down the ramp under the underpass on Gateway Drive and lost control of his bike. He ran into the cement wall shown here. Thankfully there were some adults at the park that went to get help and his parents were called. Ethan's dad, Robert Waddle, said he got the call and didn't know if his son had grabbed his helmet that day when he left for the park. Thankfully, Ethan said it's just a part of his normal routine when he takes his bike anywhere.

Ethan hit the cement wall so hard it dented the helmet, scrapped up his face and he suffered a concussion, but Ethan knows it could have been far worse if he wasn't wearing his helmet. We teach kids in our "Safety On Wheels" class that we can fix scrapes easily, but fixing a brain is much harder and sometimes there are lifelong consequences from a brain injury. His bike also had a little damage, but they are looking to get that fixed up so Ethan can keep on riding. We also provided Ethan with a new helmet and he gave us his old one to be able to tell his story to kids during our "Safety on Wheels" training.

Ethan is going to 6<sup>th</sup> grade next year and is excited to tell his story about the importance of wearing your bike helmet every time you are on your bike. He said "there isn't a way to put your helmet on right before you crash and you don't know when you are going to get into a crash so you should wear it every time you ride your bike". Safe Kids partners with AAA, Dairy Queen, the Grand Forks and East Grand Forks McDonalds, The Station in Larimore and Vision Zero—ND to do our "I Got Caught" and "Cone Head" certificates. Kids who are caught wearing their helmet by a law enforcement officer will get a ticket for an ice cream cone. Ethan's dad said he has a nice collection of these tickets from always wearing his helmet. On behalf of Safe Kids Grand Forks, we thank Ethan and his dad for sharing this story with our readers.



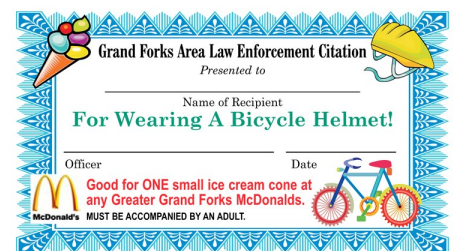
**I Got Caught!**  
 Congratulations! You were found wearing your safety helmet while riding your:  
 bike     skateboard  
 scooter     in-line skates

**Free Small Cone**  
 Share Your Pics with Us!  
 #HappyTastesGood    #SafeSummerND  
 DairyQueen    AAANorthDakota    VisionZeroND

Officer Name or Badge Number

**AAA** EXPECT SOMETHING MORE™  
**DQ** HAPPY TASTES GOOD  
**VISION ZERO** Zero fatalities. Zero excuses.

Please present before ordering. One offer per coupon, per visit. Not good in combination with any other offer. Valid at participating North Dakota DQ restaurants only. IPLU #29266    **EXPIRES: 12/31/2020**





# Bike to School Week 2021



“Bike To School Day” is so much fun we decided to make a week out of it! We visited 8 schools the week of May 3 -7. We were at Winship, Wilder, Viking, Discovery, Century, Kelly, Lake Agassiz & South Point (in EGF). In total we had 369 kids ride their bike to school during that week! Thank you to the Grand Forks Park District, MN Safe Routes to School, ND Vision Zero, AAA and Safe Kids Worldwide for sponsoring these events. We also want to thank Scheels for donating free ice cream cone tokens for kids who rode their bike and wore their helmet.

We want to thank our volunteers from the UND Nursing program, GF Police Department, GF County Sheriff’s Office, Representative Emily O’Brien and her daughter Leni, ND Vision Zero, Altru volunteers & Student Leaders from these schools. We couldn’t do what we do all year round without our volunteers.





# Bike to School Week 2021





# Safety on Wheels—Spring 2021

We were super excited to be back in the schools for our Safety on Wheels program this spring. In the spring we visit our East Grand Forks Public schools, Private schools in both East Grand Forks and Grand Forks and a bunch of regional schools. We visited 19 schools throughout the region and fitted 246 helmets! Carly from the ND Brain Injury Network assisted Jessica with majority of the presentations, we are very thankful for our partnership with NDBIN. During our Safety on Wheels presentations we discuss the importance of wearing a helmet every time you have wheels under your feet. We are also thankful to the Grand Forks Park District for sponsoring this program for us!

We also are excited to start up the bike rodeo program with the GF Optimist Club in the fall. This program works in conjunction with our Safety on Wheels program where we do the helmet and injury prevention portion and they do the bike safety rules of the road and bike inspections. Thank you to the GF Optimist Club for their continued support and collaboration!

## Spring Schools

- |                        |                        |                             |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Drayton             | 8. Riverside Christian | 16. Northwood               |
| 2. Fisher              | 9. Thompson            | 17. Midway                  |
| 3. Park River          | 10. St. Michaels       | 18. Manvel                  |
| 4. Minto               | 11. Emerado            | 19. Crookston Public School |
| 5. Crookston Cathedral | 12. Larimore           |                             |
| 6. Sacred Heart        | 13. Holy Family        |                             |
| 7. Grafton             | 14. South Point        |                             |
|                        | 15. New Heights        |                             |



# SAFE KIDS SUMMER

## 2021 CAR SEAT CHECKS

- June 1 Warren (Little Sprouts Learning Center) 3:30-5:30pm
- June 2 Bagley (Head Start) 4-6pm
- June 2 Thief River Falls (Head Start) 4-6pm
- June 7 Grafton (Walsh County Health District) 1-4pm
- June 9 Langdon (Cavalier County Courthouse) 9am-Noon
- June 9 Langdon (Langdon Day Care Center) 4:30-6:30pm
- June 10 Grand Forks (Rydell Cars) 4-7pm
- June 14 Finley (Courthouse) 4-6pm
- June 17 Park River (Farmer's Market) 4-7pm
- June 22 Grand Forks (Grand Cities Mall—Kmart Lot) 3-5pm
- June 24 East Grand Forks (Fire Dept) 9-11am BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
- July 7 Cavalier (Leever's) 3:30-6:30pm
- July 8 Grand Forks (Rydell Cars) 4-7pm
- July 15 Larimore (Ambulance Building) 4-7pm
- July 17 Northwood (DL Campbell Park) 4-7pm
- July 20 East Grand Forks (Fire Dept) Noon-2pm BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
- July 21 Drayton (Altru Clinic) 1-4pm
- July 22 Crookston (Brost Chevrolet) 4-5:30pm
- July 28 Thief River Falls (Northrup Park) 11am-1pm
- July 28 Hallock (Learning Tree Childcare Center) 4-5:30pm
- August 3 Lakota (Nelson County Courthouse) 12:30-3:30pm
- August 3 Hatton (Fire Department) 4:30-7pm
- August 4 Walhalla (St Bonafice School) 9am-Noon
- August 5 Grafton (Hanson's Auto & Implement) 4:30-6pm
- August 12 Grand Forks (Rydell Cars) 4-7pm
- August 23 East Grand Forks (Fire Dept) 9-11am BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
- September 9 Grand Forks (Rydell Cars) 4-7pm



**Additional check ups will be added!**  
 Please check [www.safekidsgf.com](http://www.safekidsgf.com) or our Facebook page for details and up to date information.



# VISION ZERO

Zero fatalities. Zero excuses.



**OFFICE OF  
TRAFFIC SAFETY**





# Car Seat Check-Up Events

presented by:



## 2021 Dates

**Rydellcars.com**

2700 South Washington Street  
Grand Forks, ND

**Second Thursday of every month from 4-7 p.m.**

January 14	July 8
February 11	August 12
March 11	September 9
April 8	October 14
May 13	November 11
June 10	December 9

No appointments needed at Rydell's

## EGF Fire Department

415 4th St NW | East Grand Forks, MN

January 26	12-2 p.m.
February 22	9-11 a.m.
March 25	12-2 p.m.
April 22	9-11 a.m.
May 24	12-2 p.m.
June 24	9-11 a.m.
July 20	12-2 p.m.
August 23	9-11 a.m.
September 23	12-2 p.m.
October 26	9-11 a.m.
November 23	12-2 p.m.
December 21	9-11 a.m.

**Appointments at Fire Department required, call 701.780.1489**

**Stop by and make sure your children have a safe ride.**

### Baby on the way?

Register for our Bringing Home Baby class offered monthly. This class is taught by a certified car seat technician and will provide you with basic car seat education, hands on practice and assistance with installing your car seat in your vehicle. To register call 701.780.1489.

For more information, visit [www.safekidsgf.com](http://www.safekidsgf.com)



# Car Seat Check-Up Events

presented by:



In partnership with MN Office of Traffic Safety



4 out of 5 car seats are used incorrectly. Could one of them be yours? Is your child's car seat on a recall list? Come and we'll check. Did you know that children up to 4'9" should be riding in a booster seat for the safest ride?

Safe Kids Grand Forks is pleased to partner with Brost Chevrolet to offer regular car seat check-up events. These are offered on the dates listed from 4 - 5:30 p.m.

**Stop by and make sure your children have a safe ride.**



www.brostchevrolet.com

## 2021 Dates

**January 28**

**April 22**

**July 22**

**October 28**

**4 - 5:30 p.m.**

For more information, contact Polk County Public Health at 218.281.3385.

Also, join us in Grand Forks at Rydell Cars the second Thursday of every month between 4-7 p.m. in the service area.

in cooperation with  
**Brost Chevrolet**

1600 University Ave, Crookston, MN

# Car Seat Check-Up Events

presented by:



Public Health  
Walsh County Public Health



**To schedule an appointment, call Walsh County Health District at 701.352.5139.**

4 out of 5 car seats are used incorrectly. Could one of them be yours? Is your child's car seat on a recall list? Did you know that children up to 4'9" should be riding in a booster seat for the safest ride?

Safe Kids Grand Forks is pleased to partner with Walsh County Health District and Hanson's Auto & Implement to offer routine car seat check-ups. These will be offered from 4:30-6 p.m. at Hanson's Auto & Implement on Hwy 17 in Grafton **by appointment only.**

in cooperation with:



14830 Hwy 17, Grafton, ND

## 2021 Dates

**February 4**

**May 6**

**August 5**

**November 4**



For additional car seat check-up events in Grand Forks and other surrounding areas, please visit Safe Kids Grand Forks on Facebook!



The staff at Safe Kids Grand Forks are here to help with your safety needs but our office is not staffed regular clinic hours. We are often times out teaching classes or conducting community events. We don't want to miss you when you stop so please call ahead to 701.780.1489 to schedule an appointment for all your safety needs. We look forward to serving you!!







## Fire Safety—Summer Style

Often considered the unofficial kick-off to summer, Memorial Day weekend typically includes lots of celebrations and cookouts, often with outdoor grilling and outdoor firepit use as part of the fun. As the holiday and summer months near, NFPA reminds everyone of basic safety tips and precautions to enjoy your time outdoors free from burns and fires.

NFPA data shows that from 2014-2018, [fire departments responded to an annual average of 10,600 home fires annually involving grills, hibachis, or barbecues](#). These fires resulted in an annual average of 10 civilian deaths, 160 civilian injuries, and \$149 million in direct property damage.

A yearly average of 19,700 patients went to emergency rooms because of injuries involving grills. Nearly half (9,500 or 48 percent) of the injuries were thermal burns, including both burns from fire and from contact with hot objects; 5,200 thermal burns were caused by such contact or other non-fire events. Children under five accounted for an average of 2,000 (39 percent) of the contact-type burns per year. These burns typically occurred when a child bumped into, touched, or fell on the grill, grill part, or hot coals.

NFPA offers these and other [tips and recommendations](#) for enjoying a fire-safe grilling and firepit season: For propane grills, check the gas tank for leaks before use in the months ahead. ([Watch NFPA's video on how to check for leaks.](#)) Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.

- Place the grill well away from the home, deck railings, and out from under eaves and overhanging branches. Always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.
- Keep children and pets at least three feet away from grilling area, and away from where hot food/liquids are being carried/served
- If you use starter fluid when charcoal grilling, only use charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire. When you have or are finished grilling, let the coals cool completely before disposing in a metal container.
- Never leave your grill unattended when in use.
- Fire pits should be at least 10 feet away from the home and other structures that can burn. Keep a bucket of water or hose nearby.
- Keep kids and pets at least three feet from the firepit. Make sure the fire in your firepit is completely out before leaving alone

Go to [www.nfpa.org/grilling](http://www.nfpa.org/grilling) for more tips on how you can enjoy the outdoors all summer long! Follow @Sparky\_Fire\_Dog on Twitter and @SparkyTheFireDog on Facebook to keep up with the latest fire and burn prevention resources!

- Thank you to Andrea Vastis, Senior Director of Public Education with NFPA for providing these tips for our newsletter.



# Grand Forks Chosen As Host Site for Driving Skills For Life Class



FOR YOUR TEEN DRIVER,  
THE FORD DRIVING SKILLS  
FOR LIFE PROGRAM  
COULD BE THE EVENT OF  
**A LIFETIME.**

The Ford Driving Skills for Life program will put teen driver's skills and judgment to the test. This program helps teens learn the skills they need to take personal responsibility to make the right choices every time they get behind the wheel.

Driving Skills for Life is for teen drivers with a permit or license between the ages of 14-18. Participants will have a chance to drive a controlled course with law enforcement while having various distractions, experience virtual simulators, and many more interactive stations.

Your teen driver's skills and judgment will be tested every time they get behind the wheel. The Ford Driving Skills for Life program helps teens learn the skills they need to take personal responsibility to make the right choices whenever they are on the road. Teens between the ages of 14 to 18 with a permit or license have the chance to drive a controlled course with law enforcement while having various distractions, experience virtual simulators and many more interactive stations.

The Ford Driving Skills for Life program is offered once a year by the Safety Division of the North Dakota Department of Transportation. Take advantage of this opportunity for your teen driver to learn and practice driving skills with experts in a controlled environment. Learn more at [VisionZero.ND.gov](http://VisionZero.ND.gov).

Teens are also welcome to sign up for the ND Safety Council's Alive at 25 course. Alive at 25 is an interactive classroom course that is designed to reduce the likelihood of young drivers ending up in a vehicle crash.



# VISION ZERO

Zero fatalities. Zero excuses.

**Date: 08/18/21**  
**Location: Alerus Center, Grand Forks**

To Register:

<https://visionzero.nd.gov/events/drivingskillsforlife/registration/>





# GRAND RIDES



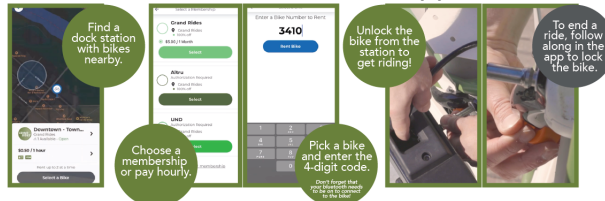
Grand Rides Bike Share can be used for commuting around Greater Grand Forks, a quick grocery run, low impact exercise, or just for a simple leisurely ride on the bike trails scattered throughout town. With docks located across town from UND Campus, the main Altru Campus, the main Altru Campus, the Alerus Center, to Downtown Forks, a dock is never more than a mile away, allowing for a quick 10 minute ride anywhere. Grand Rides Bikeshare is only possible through the support of our partners: Altru Health System, the City of Grand Forks, UND Student Government, and Visit Grand Forks.

## How does Grand Rides work?

- 1 **Download the Movatic Bike Share App.**  
Create an account (must be 18+)  
Search for Grand Rides.



- 2 **Choose your bike.**  
Find and unlock a bike with the app.



- 3 **Enjoy the ride.**  
Lock your bike to any bike share rack or public rack.



**Need Help?**  
Watch the Grand Rides how-to video:



Call Grand Rides Support weekdays from 9-5 at 701-757-4051



We are grateful to our lead agency, Altru Health System for their role in this bike share program.

# Safe Kids Grand Forks Trains Nineteen New Car Seat Technicians



Nineteen new car seat technicians were trained at a class hosted by Safe Kids Grand Forks in the month of May. We are delighted to have these folks join our ranks of safety professionals able to assist parents and caregivers with their car seat needs. Those folks, along with their amazing instructors (kneeling front row) worked hard to conduct and take this class and we are so proud of them all!! Thank you to Vision Zero—North Dakota and the Minnesota Office of Traffic Safety for their support of this class and the development of new technicians.



## ND AAA Safety Patroller of the Year

Safe Kids was honored to join with AAA to present the 2020-2021 AAA ND Safety Patroller of the Year Award to Jaylee Weisser! Jaylee is a 5<sup>th</sup> grader at Viking Elementary school. The Patroller of the Year award recognizes safety patrollers who best exemplify leadership qualities and perform their duties effectively and responsibly without incident. Jaylee received a plaque, a \$200 gift card and Viking received a \$100 credit toward safety patrol gear. Gene from AAA ND came down to help present the award to Jaylee with Jessica from Safe Kids. Congratulations again to Jaylee!

## Sharing Gratitude To Our Safe Kids Supporters

We at Safe Kids Grand Forks are grateful to our many partners that serve as volunteers, content experts and financial supporters. We have had a few new sponsors provide us with financial support since our last newsletter and we want to publicly acknowledge them.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

**Friend of Safe Kids (\$500—\$999)**



Voiture 101,  
Grand Forks, ND

**Supporter of Safe Kids (\$1000—\$4999)**

**NORTHROP GRUMMAN**





# Sharing Gratitude To Our Safe Kids Supporters

We are grateful to the following additional sponsors at the following levels:



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~ In honor and memory  
of Cynthia Lunn ~



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MYRA FOUNDATION



\$5,000—\$14,999



Andrea & Dan Boz:  
In memory of Kate



Dave & Karen Molmen



Coiga Tompkins



We are grateful for your support and also thank you supporters at the Supporter and Friend level of giving (recognized in the Spring 2021 Newsletter). We are successful in our work thanks to EACH AND EVERY volunteer and supporter of our work.

Thanks for helping to keep kids safe at HOME, at SCHOOL, at PLAY and ON the WAY.

# Fireworks Safety

Fireworks are often used to mark special events and holidays. However, they are not safe in the hands of consumers. Fireworks cause thousands of burns and eye injuries each year. People can enjoy fireworks safely if they follow a few simple safety tips:

## BE CAREFUL!

- 1) Be safe. If you want to see fireworks, go to a public show put on by experts.
- 2) Do not use consumer fireworks.
- 3) Keep a close eye on children at events where fireworks are used.

## CONSUMER FIREWORKS

NFPA is opposed to consumer use of fireworks. This includes sparklers and firecrackers. Even sparklers burn hot enough to cause third-degree burns.



## FACTS

- 1) Fireworks cause an average of almost 20,000 reported fires per year.
- 2) In 2013, sparklers caused 41% of fireworks injuries.

Safe Kids Grand Forks

701.780.1489 or [safekids@altru.org](mailto:safekids@altru.org)



Your Source for SAFETY Information  
NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

[www.nfpa.org/education](http://www.nfpa.org/education)

