



OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF OF CHEYENNE COUNTY

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SAW - Press Release

Revving Up Safety: The Cheyenne County Sheriff's Office Joins in Speeding Awareness Week to Promote Safer Roads

April 22, 2024

Sidney, NE – The Cheyenne County Sheriff's Office is joining the Nebraska Department of Transportation in taking a stand against speeding. Agencies and organizations across the state are asking motorists to watch their speed by joining their voices together in a public education campaign to emphasize how following posted speed limits is critical to driver, passenger, pedestrian and cyclist safety. Beginning April 22, 2024, you'll be seeing messages related to "Speeding Awareness Week" on social media, and dynamic message signs throughout the state.

As traffic volumes continue to grow, speeding has become a serious issue. These two factors, speeding and high volumes, have resulted in a staggering number of speeding tickets. Because excessive speeding is an issue across the country, area agencies are hoping to combat the problem via an educational campaign before traffic volumes increase even more during the spring and summer months.

"Law enforcement agencies and first responders have reported that speeding has increasingly become a factor in crashes, both in minor incidents and more serious crashes," said Vicki Kramer, Director of the Nebraska Department of Transportation. "Just last week, the Nebraska State Patrol reported the first 100 days of 2024 as the fastest on record with over 1,300 drivers being ticketed for driving 90 mph or more. This is an issue that can't be ignored. Any speeding puts more lives at risk, which is why we partnered up to declare this week Speeding Awareness Week."

Speed impacts those outside of vehicles, too. Changes in speed can have real-life consequences for pedestrians. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, if a person is hit by a vehicle going 20 miles per hour (mph), there is a 10 percent chance of fatality. The chance of fatality increases to 40 percent if a vehicle is going 30 mph and then increases to an 80 percent chance of fatality if the vehicle's speed is at 40 mph.

Speed limit signs mean that the posted speed is the limit, the maximum allowable speed for the road. It is not a recommendation or suggestion; it is the limit. With that in mind, please don't be in a hurry to get yourself into an accident.

Speeding, both "casual" and excessive, results in serious losses of time, money but – most importantly – human life. That's why, as part of Speeding Awareness Week, every partner agency encourages drivers to slow down and follow the posted speed limit on roads.

Adam E. Frerichs, Sheriff
Cheyenne County