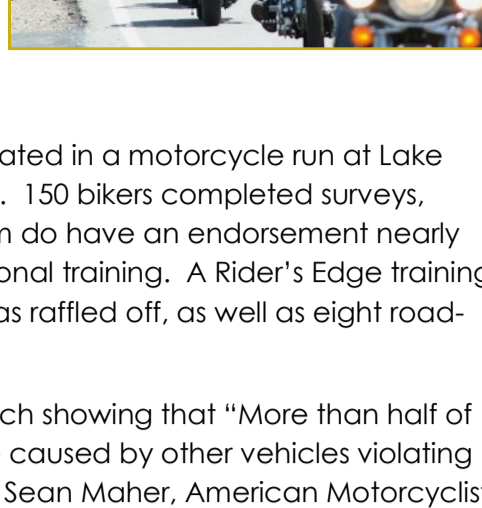




In this Lorain County Safe Community Coalition e-newsletter issue you will find updates on past and current safety campaigns, details on upcoming community-based events, and ways you can continue to be involved in the Coalition.

Increasing Motorcycle Safety Education to Save Lives

Due to an increase in motorcycle crashes in recent years, resulting in a rise in fatalities, the state of Ohio chose to make motorcycle safety an initiative for Safe Communities in 2008.



This past Spring, the Coalition began education efforts by distributing Ride SMART (Sober, Motorcycle Endorsed, Alert, Right Gear, Trained) banners to several bike shops and repair locations in the County.

On June 29, 2008, the Coalition participated in a motorcycle run at Lake Erie Harley Davidson Dealership in Avon. 150 bikers completed surveys, revealing that while the majority of them do have an endorsement nearly half of them have received no professional training. A Rider's Edge training course, donated by Lake Erie Harley, was raffled off, as well as eight roadside assistant kits.

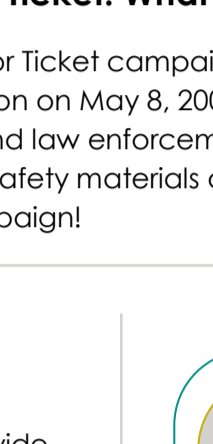
Crashes in Lorain County support research showing that "More than half of all multi-vehicle motorcycle crashes are caused by other vehicles violating the right-of-way of a motorcyclist," says Sean Maher, American Motorcyclist Association director of state affairs. Due to these current trends, the theme of the Safe Community booth at the Lorain County Fair was *Look Twice. Save a Life*. The Coalition felt it was important to encourage motorists to actively watch for motorcyclists on the roadways. For greater impact, a crashed motorcycle was on display in addition to tips to help motorists be more mindful drivers. Ten [Motorcycle Ohio](#) course vouchers and ten roadside assistant kits were raffled off. We received many comments on the booth display, as well as interest from riders in how to get more skills training. Thank you to the Coalition members and State Highway Patrol Troopers who helped to man the booth!

The Coalition's *Look Twice. Save a Life.* display is available to loan for organizations interested in increasing motorcycle safety awareness— [e-mail the Coalition](#) for more information.

2008 Zero-Proof Mix-Off

You're invited to celebrate the Holidays with the Safe Community Coalition at the 7th Annual Zero-Proof Mix-Off on Thursday, December 4, 2008, from 5 to 7:00 pm at Lorain County Community College— Spitzer Conference Center.

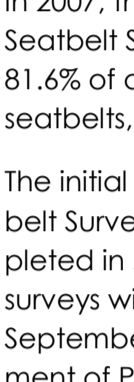
We're looking for local organizations to submit drink recipes, as well as donate prizes. If you're interested in participating in this year's celebration, visit [loraincountysafecommunity.com](#) for entry forms, or e-mail scc@loraincountysafecommunity.com.



Gearing Up for the Annual Buckle-Up Bowl

The Annual Buckle-Up Bowl is underway at seven area high schools throughout the County, including the following school districts Amherst Steele HS, Avon HS, Avon Lake HS, Brookside HS, Firelands HS, Lorain County JVS, and Wellington HS.

The winning high schools will be presented with a banner of accomplishment, and seatbelt survey results will be announced at an upcoming Coalition meeting.



Click-It or Ticket: What's Holding You Back?

The Click-It or Ticket campaign was kicked-off at the annual luncheon on May 8, 2008. Thank you to all Coalition members and law enforcement personnel who assisted in distributing safety materials and helped to make it a successful campaign!

Collecting Statewide Seatbelt Usage Data

In 2007, the Official Statewide Seatbelt Survey revealed that 81.6% of drivers were using their seatbelts, up 0.6% from 2006.

The initial Statewide Official Seatbelt Survey for 2008 was completed in June, and the follow-up surveys will be conducted during September. The Ohio Department of Public Safety, law enforcement and Safe Community organizations have been working together to increase the usage rate to 85% in 2008. Look for the complete data to be available for review later this year.

Injury and Fatal Crash Count

Traffic-related injury crashes and fatalities totals 2008 in Lorain County as of, September 24, 2008:

- 370** total injury crashes
 - 339** automobile
 - 31** motorcycle
- 19** total fatalities
 - 10** motorists
 - 3** passengers
 - 4** motorcyclists
 - 2** pedestrians

Looking for more ways to get involved in the community?

The Lorain County Safe Community Coalition may be a great way for you to start! Visit, [www.loraincountysafecommunity.com](#) for more information on how you can help save lives on Lorain County roadways!

[Click here for more information on Lorain County Safe Community Coalition.](#)



Conducted through the Lorain County General Health District