



## National Teen Driver Safety Week 2017: Graduated Driver Licensing

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin partnered with State Farm and the DOT to celebrate National Teen Driver Safety Week. The focus of this year's campaign was Wisconsin's Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) law. The goal was to educate teens about the risks of teen driving and the importance of GDL in developing and encouraging safe, responsible drivers and reducing crashes and fatalities on Wisconsin roads.

### Participating High Schools:

- Oshkosh North HS
- Neenah HS
- Oshkosh West HS
- Winneconne HS
- Badger HS
- Arrowhead HS
- Logan HS
- St. Croix Central HS
- John Edwards HS
- Palmyra-Eagle HS
- Wausau East HS
- Appleton North HS
- Berlin HS
- Hamilton HS
- Elkhorn Area HS

Number of students reached: Approximately 6850

Number of materials distributed: 1500 car magnets, 4500 wallet cards, 600 posters, 15 "How Many Hours?" games, and 75 gift cards

Number of reusable National Teen Driver Safety Week banners at Wisconsin high schools: 18

Lake Geneva Regional News published an article about National Teen Driver Safety Week at Badger High School!

# Badger promotes safe driving for teens

By Jen Gragg  
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Along with homecoming and Halloween, students at Badger High School took a week to celebrate something even more important in the month of October — National Teen Driver Safety Week.

Badger High School, in coordination with the Crossroads Teen Driving Program, created a safe drivers week for the third year in a row Oct. 15-Oct. 21 in honor of National Teen Driver Safety Week.

Between 2014 and 2016, 330 teenagers between the ages of 15 and 19 were injured in a motor vehicle crash in Walworth County, according to data from the WisTransPortal database of Wisconsin crash data.

An additional four people in the same age range were killed in motor vehicle accidents during the time period.



Students play the "How Many Hours" game at Badger High School during safe driving week activities to encourage behind-the-wheel safety for teens. (Contributed photo/Regional News)

"That's the number-one cause of death for teens ages 16-19, is motor vehicle crashes," said Carissa Hoium, the motor vehicle safety coordinator for the Crossroads Teen Driving Program.

The event came to Bad-

ger after Crossroads, which is a program of the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, urged schools in Wisconsin to celebrate driver safety week.

And the kids at Badger were more than happy to participate.

### Outreach

The Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, or FCCLA, is a student outreach organization at Badger.

Dee Dee Giovingo, who runs the organization, said her students took the initiative and chose to do something to promote safe driving.

"We do whatever they want to do," Giovingo said. "So we're kind of ambitious."

This year, the students put on multiple activities to promote safe driving throughout the week.

According to Giovingo, the group conducted seat-belt checks as student drivers pulled into school. Any driver wearing a seat belt was given a free coupon for a doughnut.

Students with instructional driver permits also got a doughnut.

"We were celebrating the kids who take the ini-

tiative to go to the class," Giovingo said, explaining that unlike in the past, students who want their driving permits have to sign up for classes outside of school if they wish to learn how to drive.

The group also put on multiple activities for the students to participate in throughout the day, including a game called How Many Hours.

Here, the students had to guess how many hours of training different jobs require, and then compare that to the 30 hours that are required to learn how to drive a car.

### Moving forward

Going forward, Giovingo said that FCCLA will continue to do work that promotes safe driving for teens.

On Oct. 27, for example, she said the FCCLA students went to Star Center Elementary School to talk to kids about the importance

of using a booster seat until they are tall enough to ride without one.

Members of the group also recently got the chance to go to Washington, D.C., to attend the Youth Interactive Traffic Safety Lab at the National Organization of Youth Safety.

According to Giovingo, the Badger organization won the trip after reaching 97.8 percent of Badger students who consistently wear their seat belts.

The way the week was structured also reaped benefits.

According to Hoium, the fact that the FCCLA students worked on the event made a difference in the responsiveness of Badger students.

"It's not always just some adults coming in and preaching to the kids about what they should be doing," she said. "The kids got more into it, and they really participated."

