



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 31, 2019

Silverton Police Department
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Silverton, OR 97381

To: Valley Media Agencies
From: Tim Hein, Traffic Officer
Date: October 31, 2019
Subject: **2019-2020 ODOT Seatbelt Grant for Silverton Police**

The Silverton Police Department has been awarded a 2019-2020 seatbelt grant through the Oregon Department of Transportation. To meet the requirements of the grant, seatbelt and proper child restraint use will be enforced throughout the year, but specifically during the following date ranges: (February 3 – 16th, May 18th – May 31st, and August 24th – September 6th). This will be done in an effort to increase traffic safety, and decrease the chance of injury during a crash. By getting the word out early it is our sincere hope you make sure to properly wear your seatbelt and use proper child restraint equipment.

Oregon law requires:

- 1) *Children must ride in rear-facing safety seats until they are (2) years old.*
- 2) *Children older than 2 years old can ride in a forward facing safety seat, but must continue to use it until they weigh at least (40) pounds.*
- 3) *Children who weigh more than (40) pounds must use a child safety seat or booster seat until they are (8) years old or (4 feet 9 inches) tall, and the adult lap and shoulder belt fits them correctly.*
Note: Never use a booster seat with just a lap belt. When the rear seats of a vehicle have lap belts only, Oregon law exempts children from the requirement to use a booster seat, but requires they be secured by the lap belt.
- 4) *A person who is taller than (4 feet 9 inches) must be properly secured with a safety belt or safety harness. Properly secured means the lap belt of the safety belt or safety harness is positioned low across the thighs and the shoulder belt is positioned over the collarbone and away from the neck.*