



For Immediate Release

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Secure Your Load Day Safety Campaign

Washington – The Washington State Patrol (WSP) will participate in the National Secure Your Load Day on June 7th, 2021. During this day, Troopers and Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Officers (CVEOs) will be conducting traffic stops and inspections on vehicles to ensure that all cargo is safely secured. Both Troopers and Officers will be educating the public about the importance of securing loads properly.

The Secure Your Load safety day was started in 2004 here in the northwest when a driver was blinded and nearly killed after being struck by an unsecured piece of particle board that flew out of a trailer on Interstate 405.

Driving with an unsecured load is both against the law and extremely dangerous.

Here are some good tips when securing your load.

- Tie it down with rope, netting or straps.
- Consider covering the entire load with a sturdy tarp or netting.
- Don't overload your vehicle or trailer.
- Check to make sure the load is secured at the back, sides and top.
- Ask yourself, 'Would I feel safe if I were driving behind my vehicle?'

In 2019, the Washington State Patrol investigated 154 collisions caused by unsecured vehicle loads and contacted 7,386 motorists for failing to secure their vehicles' load. Nationally in 2019, there were 739 deaths, 17,367 injuries and 89,915 property damage crashes caused by unsecured loads and road debris. (Numbers reported by the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration)

What to do as a motorist when you see debris in the roadway? Do not stop to remove it from the roadway. Please call 911 and advise the location of debris. Our Officers, Troopers and Department of Transportation (DOT) personnel have the proper safety equipment and training to safely remove debris from the roadway.

Help us keep Washington litter free.



Pictures received from officer stops. First shows missing strap on tote containers and second is loose items in a pickup truck bed not secured.

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