

# Billings Area Injury Prevention Newsletter

Billings Area Indian Health Service

July-September 2008 Edition

Volume 2, Issue 3

## Blackfoot Tribe and Indian Health Service Host Second Annual Injury Prevention & Fire Safety Fair

June 2008, Browning, MT- Story Text here:

On Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup> there was an Injury Prevention and Fire Safety Community Fair. It was held in the City Park in Browning and was sponsored by Blackfoot Tribal Business Council, Miami Project, Blackfoot Emergency Medical Service, Blackfoot Utilities, Blackfoot Fire Management, Blackfoot Tribal Health, Blackfoot Community Health Representative, Blackfoot Housing Authority, Blackfoot Head Start, Blackfoot Community hospital and Blackfoot Dept. of Public Safety.



**Pictured Above: Napi provided some entertainment for the crowd during the event.**

Over 700 people attended the event and were treated to a hamburger and hotdog feed. Root Beer Floats were available for the kids but ran out fast! Smokey Bear and Napi were there and people were treated to some tunes by D.J. Brad Montoya and emcee Bruce Running Crane. Many door prizes were given away including car seats, t-shirts, fire extinguisher, and smoke alarms.

Thank you to all those who helped make the fair a huge success!

**Article submitted by Freda Heavy Runner, Optometry Technician, Billings Area Indian Health Service, Blackfoot Service Unit, Optometry Department. Freda can be reached at 406-338-6140 for further questions.**



**Pictured Above: Blackfoot Community Hospital Maintenance Crew prepares to feed the crowd.**



**Pictured Above: Blackfoot Tribal members gather for a day of fun and education about Injury Prevention and Fire Safety.**

The idea of the fair began in the Eye Clinic with Freda HeavyRunner. Each year, around the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, the Eye Clinic sees 3-4 children with eye injuries caused by fireworks. Past years have left several children from Browning and Heart Butte with permanent blindness. In an effort to change this, Freda met with local businesses and services to create a community awareness fair that focused on fire safety and injury prevention.



**Pictured Above: Smokey the Bear gives children important lessons on fire safety!!!**

**"INJURIES ARE PREVENTABLE!"**

In this issue:

Blackfoot Tribe & IHS Host 2nd Annual IP & Fire Safety Fair	Pg. 1
Area Wide News and	Pgs. 2-6
National Health & Wellness Observance Calendar	Pg. 2-3
Events and Schedules	Pg. 5
Safety Spotlight	Pg. 7
Contact Information	Pg. 8

### Injury Prevention Links

#### Indian Health Service



[IHS.gov](http://IHS.gov)

#### Indian Health Service, Injury Prevention Program



[IHS Injury Prevention Program](#)

#### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



[cdc.gov](http://cdc.gov)

#### CDC- Injury, Violence, and Safety



[Injury, Violence, Safety website](#)



**NATIONAL HEALTH  
& WELLNESS  
OBSERVANCES  
CALENDAR 2008**

**September 2008**

**Baby Safety  
Awareness Month**



**Children's Eye  
Health and Safety  
Month**



[preventblindness.org](http://preventblindness.org)

**Sports and Home  
Eye Safety Month**



[preventblindness.org](http://preventblindness.org)

**Auto Battery Safety  
Month**



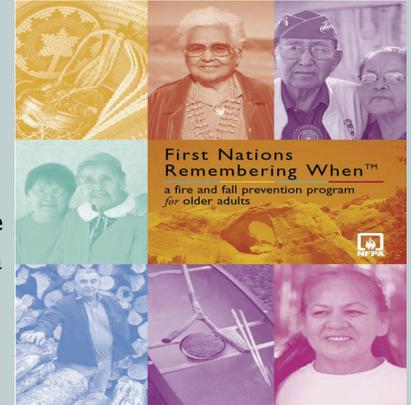
[preventblindness.org](http://preventblindness.org)

**Area Wide News and Events**

**Billings Area Office September 2008-** The Billings Area Indian Health Service, Injury Prevention Program would like to announce the Fort Belknap Service Unit has been selected for a Fall & Fire Prevention Project. This project is a public health intervention targeting the elderly who live within the exterior boundaries of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation in north-central Montana. The purpose of the project is to reduce morbidity and mortality relating to falls and home fires for the elderly population on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation.

The Fort Belknap Fall & Fire Prevention Project will be modeled after the "First Nations Remembering When: a fire and fall prevention program for older adults," that was developed by the [National Fire Protection Association](#). This project will provide a wealth of knowledge to participating elders in the community including education on fall and fire safety techniques (ex. fire escape plans, emergency contact numbers, etc.), and environmental modification (ex. install grab bars for bathrooms, home lighting, smoke alarms, slip resistant rugs, safe cooking practices, etc.).

The Fort Belknap Fall & Fire Prevention Project is scheduled to begin sometime in October 2008 with the Indian Health Service, Fort Belknap Tribal Health Department, and Fort Belknap Tribal Elderly programs utilizing a selection process to determine those elderly who are at a high risk to participate in the project.

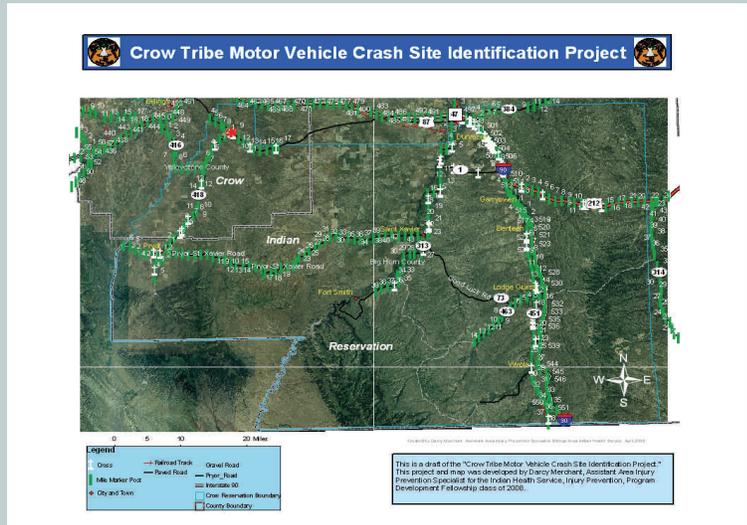


**Crow Tribe Motor Vehicle Crash Site Identification Project Update**

**September 2008-** The Crow Tribe Motor Vehicle Crash Site Identification Project is currently on schedule with Darcy Merchant, Assistant Area Injury Prevention Specialist, Billings Area IHS, conducting the research which is an injury prevention intervention for the 2008 IHS Injury Prevention Program Development Fellowship. The purpose of the project is to reduce morbidity and mortality of American Indian/Alaska Natives of all ages who travel on highway and road systems within the Crow Indian Reservation boundaries.

The means to achieve this goal is to use spatial analysis to identify Motor Vehicle Crash (MVC) cluster sites and to make recommendations to Crow Tribal Officials on how to reduce morbidity and mortality by incorporation of the three "E's" of injury prevention: Environmental modification (road grade changes, rumble strips), Enforcement (legislative and law enforcement), and Education (general public or targeted age groups).

Prior to the onset of the research, Mr. Merchant developed and passed a Joint Action Resolution from the Crow Tribal Legislative and Executive branches to receive permission to conduct the project on the reservation. Methodology includes researching Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) police reports dating from 2006-2008 to record, identify, and enter severe MVCs into an IHS MVC surveillance database (Epi Info software), cross-referencing BIA MVC police reports with Montana Highway



Story Continued on pg. 3...

## NATIONAL HEALTH &

### WELLNESS OBSERVANCES CALENDAR 2008

October 2008

#### Domestic Violence Awareness Month

[ncadv.org](http://ncadv.org)

#### National Fire Prevention Week (October 5-11, 2008)



[nfpa.org](http://nfpa.org)

#### Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day (October 10, 2008)



[brakesonfatalities.org](http://brakesonfatalities.org)

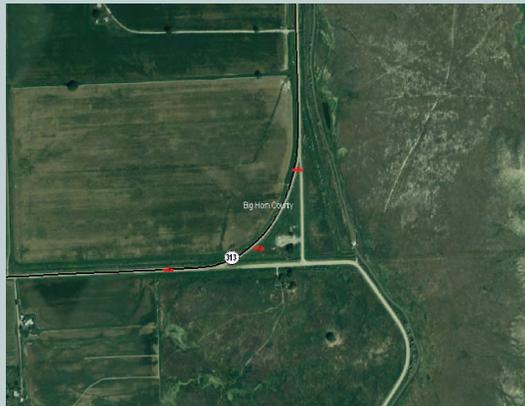
#### National Collegiate Alcohol Awareness Week (NCAAW)



[bacchusgamma.org](http://bacchusgamma.org)

## Area Wide News and Events

Patrol MVC data (1996-2007) and the IHS Injury Data Surveillance System data (Crow IHS Hospital), using Global Positioning System (GPS) to plot all severe MVCs, identifying MVC cluster sites using spatial analysis, and presenting the findings to the Crow Tribe's Department of Transportation, Tribal Health Department, Legislative, and Executive branches.



Pictured above: An ArcGIS map of Motor Vehicle Crash fatalities that occurred on the Crow Indian Reservation.

Mr. Merchant has completed over 80 percent of GPS plotting for the BIA and Montana Highway Patrol data and hopes to finish up by end of October 2008. The next phase of the project is to conduct analysis to determine where any trends and/or cluster sites of Motor Vehicle Crashes are occurring on the Crow Indian Reservation.

This is impressive public health work by anybody's standards and indicates a program with great potential. Keep up the good work!

Article submitted by **Craig Molgaard, Ph.D, MPH**, Chair and Professor of the School of Public & Community Health Sciences, University of Montana.

#### Fort Belknap Service Unit

**Summer 2008-** For the summer months the Injury Prevention program participated in a number of activities.

Stan provided information to seventeen junior high students who attended the Talent Search Summer Camp. A power point presentation on Seat belt use, West Nile, Lightning, Impaired Driving was made for the students. This information was very helpful as the students were leaving on a float trip down the Missouri River.

**July 2008-** We participated in the Milk River Powwow Parade, as well as setting up an informational tent at the Milk River Powwow along with the Tobacco Prevention Program, SOAR (Safe on all Roads) and Tammy Rider who is the community organizer for MSU in Bozeman. Powwow bags were distributed with information on West Nile Virus, adult and child seat belt usage, tobacco use, skin cancer, emergency preparedness booklets.



Due to the number of mosquitoes at the powwow; insect repellent towelettes were provided as well as water, hand held fans, and sunscreen.

**July 2008-** Sobriety checkpoints were conducted by the Fort Belknap Tribal Police during the Milk River Powwow and Hays Mission Powwow, Injury Prevention funds were used for this DUI and seat belt check.

**September 2008-** A two day "Violence in the Workplace (Dysfunctional Employees)" workshop was sponsored by our office. This workshop was held on September 9 & 10, 2008 at the Fort Belknap Casino. Bullying, Conflict Resolution, Professional Development and Managing Difficult People and Programs were some of the topics addressed. Attendees received incentive of a massage or acupuncture.

**September 2008-** The Fort Belknap Tribal radio station, KGVA, has started broadcasting our injury prevention public service announcements for the upcoming school year.

**September 2008-** The Fort Belknap Injury Prevention Program hosted a Bike Rodeo/Car Seat Clinic on Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-3:00 PM. The tribal police will provide manpower for the bike rodeo and the two certified car seat technicians (Darren Blackwolf and Stan Zander) handled the car seat clinic.

**September 2008-** The Fort Belknap Injury Prevention Program is currently networking with Safe On All Roads to sponsor a round dance song writing contest. The songs must encourage young people to:

1. Wear a seat belt and make sure everyone else is buckled up
2. Don't ride with a driver under the influence of drugs or alcohol
3. Drive safely and wear a seat belt

*Area Wide News & Events Continued on next page 4...*

**September 2008**– The Fort Belknap Injury Prevention Program participated in the Harlem High School Homecoming Parade on September 26th, 2008 and focused on impaired driving.



**October 2008**– The Fort Belknap Injury Prevention program will participate in the Montana DUI task force meeting in Helena on October 2nd, 2008.

Article submitted by Stan Zander, Jr., Injury Prevention Coordinator, Fort Belknap Tribal Health Department. For further questions or information, please call Stan Zander, Jr. at 406-353-3165.

### Northern Cheyenne Service Unit

**July 2008**- Northern Cheyenne President Small declared a Mosquito/West Nile Health Alert, for the Northern Cheyenne Reservation and surrounding areas. It was then decided that aerial spraying would be the most effective.

The spraying of mosquitoes took place July 29-August 2 and was a big success. The main areas sprayed were along the Tongue River from Birney to Ashland, Muddy Creek area and Rosebud Creek area. Notices with information on the aerial spraying and the Health Alert were put out into the communities and delivered door to door in the areas that were going to be sprayed. We had a few concerns but for most of the people they were very glad that something was going to be done about these pesky little creatures.

Although we sprayed it is not going to kill off all of the mosquitoes but should have eliminated a lot of them.

We will still need to take precautions when going outside in the evenings

#### **1. Avoid Mosquito bites**

Apply insect repellent- Use a repellent that contains “DEET”, Picaridin or oil of lemon eucalyptus.

Cover Up!- Wear long sleeve shirts, long pants and socks sprayed with repellent while outdoors.

Avoid mosquitoes- Many mosquitoes bite between dusk and dawn. Limit your time outside during these hours.

#### **2. Mosquito Proof Your Home**

Screens- Make sure that all window and door screens are in good shape.

Drain standing water- A small amount of standing water can be enough for a mosquito to lay her eggs

Look around every week for possible mosquito breeding places- Empty water from buckets, cans, pool covers, flower pots and other items. Throw away or cover up stored tires and other items that aren't being used. Check if rain gutters are clogged. Repair leaky pipes,

faucets and hoses. Encourage neighbors to do the same.

**This last one is very important and would really help around your house and yard.**

We would like to thank the Board of Health, Ed Joiner- NC DES, JD Little White Man - CHR, Arnie LaFranier and his crew – Environmental Protection Dept, Mark Roundstone & Youth Workers- Natural Resources.

### **NORTHERN CHEYENNE ENHANCED 911 PROGRAM UNDERWAY**

**September 2008**- If all goes well the Northern Cheyenne Enhanced 911 program will be underway in about four months. This means our emergency dispatch center will be upgraded and will become more efficient. What this means to residents is quicker response times, and each resident actually having a physical address.

As the process goes each street will be given a name (most are already done in the towns) and each resident will be given their own unique number which will not only benefit responders, but utility people, delivery people and any others needing an easy way to locate a house. As we often get people from out of town for emergency services or various other reasons they are often directed to “the third house on the right after the next turn off, and it should be a red house”. A big problem sometimes is that the house got painted and it is now tan, and a lot of the time is wasted trying to locate a house. This could be very crucial on an emergency situation.

The complete mapping of the reservation is being headed by Mike Bear Comes Out for the BIA Fire and Aviation. Mike has been compiling maps for years and this will make the process less painful for the organizers. Also Clifford Foote from the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Housing Authority has been working on the road names, subdivisions, and has good background on the history of our area.

Residents living along the highways in the outlying areas will be given addresses that are coordinated with the mile markers. Mile markers will generally go from Highway 212 out to the rural roads. For example, a house located between the three and four mile marker will have a number between 3000 and 4000 depending on their distance from that mile marker. This is why the mile markers are being changed from Birney to Lane Deer and the Muddy Creek Road. Houses on 212 will also use the mile markers for reference points.

After all the information is gathered, it is sent to a company for the actual addressing to be done. When this is complete each resident on the reservation will be given their official address. Also this information will be put in a data base for the dispatch center for their upgraded operations.

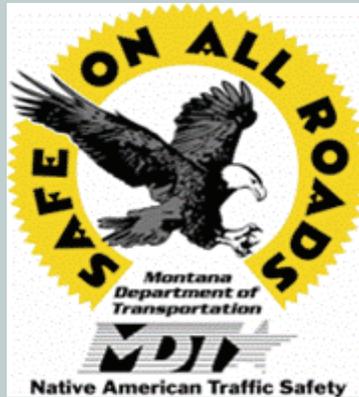
Article submitted by Roxanne Braine, Environmental Health Technician, Northern Cheyenne Office of Environmental Health, Injury Prevention Program. For further questions or information, please call Roxanne Braine at 406-477-4516.

*\*No Injury Prevention activities reported for July-September 2008 for the following Service Units/Tribal Health Departments: Wind River, Crow, and Fort Peck Service Units, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Health Department, and Rocky Boy Tribal Health Department.*

## State of Montana News & Events

### Safe On All Roads Update

The Montana Department of Transportation's Native American Traffic Safety program began as a pilot public education program on the Blackfeet Reservation and expanded to three other northern Montana reservations over the last two years. Now efforts are underway to obtain local support for customized seat belt and impaired driving message development and outreach on the Flathead, Northern Cheyenne and Crow Reservations.



**June 2008**– The SOAR program ran a Father's Day "Buckle Up Because You Love Me" campaign. A new Sober Behind the Wheel billboard was added near Ashland on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation. Bumper stickers with the Sober Behind the Wheel message were distributed over the summer.

**July 2008**- A community event to begin construction of the rock circle Blackfeet Medicine Wheel was held on July 10 in Browning. Families gathered to place stones in the circle in memory of a loved one lost in an alcohol-related death. The next community event at the Medicine Wheel is expected in late September.



Pictured above: Theda Newbreast of Babb places a stone in the Blackfeet Medicine Wheel. Photo by Larry Beckner.

### Events and Schedules

#### October 2008

-The Governor's Advisor Council for Traumatic Brain Injury will hold two meetings on October 9th-10th, 2008 in Helena, MT. The October 9th meeting will be held at 111 Sanders Avenue, Room 306 of the State of MT, Public Health and Human Services Building from 1PM-5:30PM. The October 10th meeting will be held at the State Capital Building, Room 172 from 8AM-2PM.

-The Bighorn DUI Task Force has scheduled a meeting from 2pm-5pm at the Bighorn County Courthouse, Room 301 on Wednesday, October 15th, 2008. For more information, please contact Mark Humphrey at 406-665-9704

**Summer 2008**- The theme "Safe Travel is Traditional" was used at summer powwows on the Fort Peck, Fort Belknap, Northern Cheyenne and Blackfeet Reservations. Thanks to the goodwill of announcers, our talking points about seat belt use received attention. The SOAR program sponsored a Tiny Tot special at Lame Deer, an honoring for Fort Peck Community College at Wolf Point and a hand drum contest at Poplar.

**September 2008**– The SOAR program began a Back to School campaign using the Buckle Up Boys, the Hendrickson brothers from Arlee, Montana. These three young men have been very selfless in supporting a "Buckle Up In Your Truck" campaign first developed by Margene Asay of CSKT Tribal Health and Emily Colomeda of Lake County Safe Kids Safe Communities.

The SOAR program is currently sponsoring a contest for Back to School safe driving themes. We've asked schools to help us promote a contest for young people to create their own radio script, round dance song or poster design. The subjects of the creative materials for the contest can be seat belt use, sober driving or talking to teens about the dangers of distraction while driving. In addition to prize awards, contest winners will be featured in [Native Montana Magazine](#) and record their work for the radio.

**September 2008**- Volunteers or paid coordinators are working with MDT to get training in seat belt use observation so that data collection is consistent with that used in the off-reservation locations in the state.

The traffic safety media campaigns for both Montana statewide and Native American audiences are now accessible on an archive web site. Please contact [info@safeonallroads.com](mailto:info@safeonallroads.com) if you wish to be added to the user list.

Article submitted by Randi Szabo, Banik Communications, to reach Randi for further questions or comments, please call her at 406-454-3422, ext. 103.

-State of Montana, DHHS, Injury Prevention & Control Program will be hosting an Injury Prevention Meeting on Thursday, October 30th, 2008. The meeting is from 10am-2pm and will be located at the Cogswell Conference Rooms C205 & C207, 1400E Broadway, Helena, MT. Please contact Mrs. Bobbi Perkins at 406-444-4126 for more information.

#### December 2008

-A four and a half day National Standardized Child Passenger Safety Technician Course will be held in Bozeman, MT on December 1-5, 2008. To register, please [click here](#).

#### Funding Announcement

The Bureau of Indian Affairs Indian Highway Safety Program has released the application for the 2009 Child Passenger Safety Seat Program. Last day to submit applications: July 31, 2009. Please [click here](#) to download an application.

## Healthy Mothers Healthy Babies Host Update Training for Montana's Child Passenger Safety Technicians

**September 2008-** Child seat and seat belt specialists from across Montana met in Bozeman for the 2008 CPS Technician Update. The day-long training included information on updated recommendations and products, efforts to improve Montana's occupant protection laws and programs, assuring the quality of child seat inspections, and effectively using resources.

Child passenger safety technicians complete a nationally standardized course that covers injury prevention, crash dynamics, child seats, seat belts and air bags. They then freely provide community services to help protect Montana families. Continuing education and supervised activity are required for recertification.

"Parents and grandparents want to protect their families, but almost all are using child seats and seat belts incorrectly," said Patty Carrell, State Coordinator for Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies – The Montana Coalition. "Our network of inspection stations and certified technicians provides free hands-on help to ensure correct selection and use."

The annual event is co-sponsored by Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies and the Montana Department of Transportation. This year's speakers included Joseph Colella, a Maryland instructor who has provided occupant protection training in 44 states, Alan Korn, Director of Public Policy for Safe Kids Worldwide, and Mike Cooney, President of the Montana Senate. In addition to the technical update, Montana's certified instructors spent a day honing their instructor skills.

For information about the proper use of child seats & seat belts, or to locate a free child seat inspection, visit [www.hmhb-mt.org](http://www.hmhb-mt.org) or call 1-800-421-6667. 



Pictured above (l-r): Joe Colella, Darcy Merchant, Stan Zander, Jr., Senator Mike Cooney, Alan Korn, and Adrian Spotted Bird.

## Child Seats & Seat Belt Checkup By Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies at Crow Fair 2008

**August 2008-** A new event at the Crow Fair helped attendees protect their families from Montana's biggest killer: motor vehicle crashes. Hands-on seat belt and child seat inspections were provided by Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies – The Montana Coalition.

217 people died on Montana roads in 2007 – and nearly 10,000 were injured. 1,300 people were so seriously injured that they can no longer walk, drive or otherwise function the way they did before the crash. According to the BIA, Native Americans are twice as likely to die on roadways as all other races and ethnicities combined.

Since child seats and seat belts provide the best protection when used properly, and most are misused in one or more ways, participants were taught how to correctly secure, adjust and use the systems. Extra child seats were donated by Cosco, a leading manufacturer, and were available to families who needed them or who donated money for additional seats. All seats were also assessed for recalls and proper child fit.

"When a child is in the wrong restraint for her age, size or development, the chance of life-threatening injuries in a crash sky-rockets," explains Patty Carrell, State Coordinator for Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies. "Boosters are the step that most parents skip because it is relatively new information in the U.S."

The Crow Fair checkup was made possible by the Crow Tribe and the Big Horn County Sherriff's Office. The inspectors were Patty Carrell and Joe Colella, both of whom are certified child passenger safety instructors. They have already been asked to participate in next year's gathering.

Article submitted by Joe Colella, Traffic Safety Projects, for further information please contact Mr. Colella @ 301-466-8140 or [CoellaSa-fety@gmail.com](mailto:CoellaSa-fety@gmail.com)



# Safety Spotlight:

# Dog Bite Prevention!



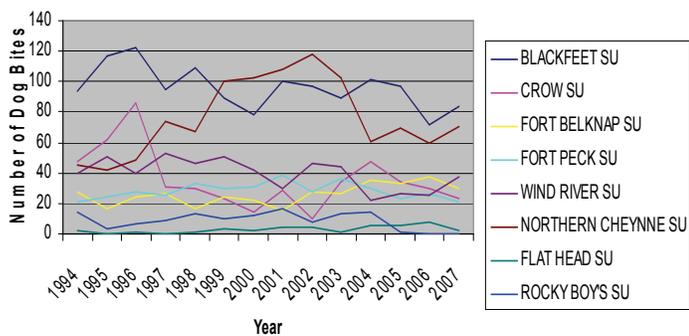
## FACTS ABOUT DOG BITES:

- About 4.7 million people are bitten each year by dogs.
- Each year, 800,000 Americans seek medical attention for dog bites; half of these are children.
- Of those injured, 386,000 require treatment in an emergency department and about a dozen die.
- The rate of dog bite-related injuries is highest for children ages 5 to 9 years, and the rate decreases as children age.
- Almost two thirds of injuries among children ages four years and younger are to the head or neck region.

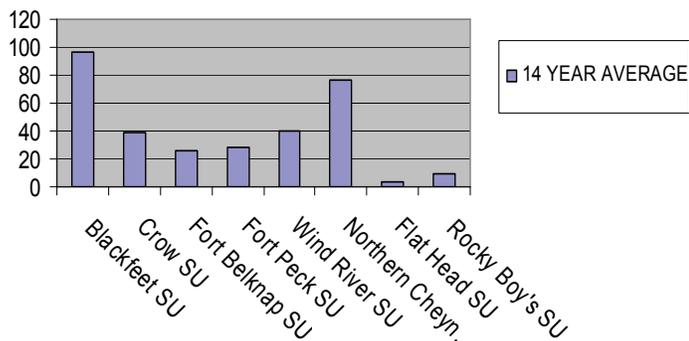


## FACTS ABOUT DOG BITES IN YOUR COMMUNITY:

Dog Bites Per Billings Area IHS, Service Unit, 1994-2007



14 YEAR AVERAGE OF DOG BITES, BY BILLINGS AREA IHS SERVICE UNIT, 1994-2007



## THINGS TO CONSIDER BEFORE YOU GET A DOG:

- Consult with a professional (e.g., veterinarian, animal behaviorist, or responsible breeder) to learn about suitable breeds of dogs for your household.
- Dogs with histories of aggression are inappropriate in households with children.
- Be sensitive to cues that a child is fearful or apprehensive about a dog and, if so, delay acquiring a dog.
- Spend time with a dog before buying or adopting it. Use caution when bringing a dog into the home of an infant or toddler.
- Spay/neuter virtually all dogs (this frequently reduces aggressive tendencies).
- Never leave infants or young children alone with any dog.
- Do not play aggressive games with your dog (e.g., wrestling).
- Properly socialize and train any dog entering the household.
- Teach the dog submissive behaviors (e.g., rolling over to expose abdomen and relinquishing food without growling).
- Immediately seek professional advice (e.g., from veterinarians, animal behaviorists, or responsible breeders) if the dog develops aggressive or undesirable behaviors.



## PREVENTING DOG BITES:

Teach children basic safety around dogs and review regularly:

- Do not approach an unfamiliar dog.
- Do not run from a dog and scream.
- Remain motionless (e.g., "be still like a tree") when approached by an unfamiliar dog.
- If knocked over by a dog, roll into a ball and lie still (e.g., "be still like a log").
- Do not play with a dog unless supervised by an adult.
- Immediately report stray dogs or dogs displaying unusual behavior to an adult.
- Avoid direct eye contact with a dog.
- Do not disturb a dog who is sleeping, eating, or caring for puppies.
- Do not pet a dog without allowing it to see and sniff you first.
- If bitten, immediately report the bite to an adult.



References: Billings Area IHS, OIM, Dog Bites per Service Unit, 1994-2007.

Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, Spotlight on Dog Bite Prevention.

Retrieved from <http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/duip/biteprevention.htm>



## Mission of the Indian Health Service

**THE MISSION OF THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE IS TO RAISE THE PHYSICAL, MENTAL, SOCIAL, AND SPIRITUAL HEALTH OF AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL.**

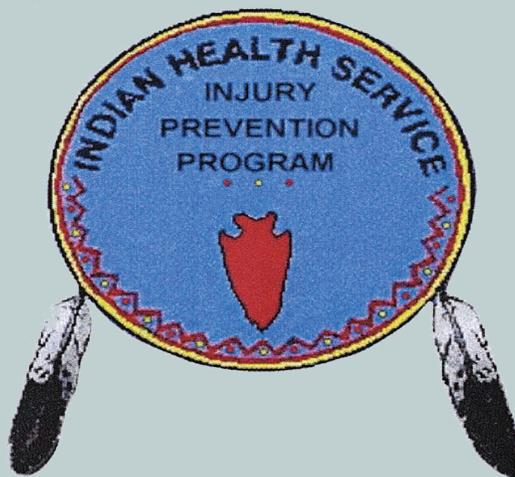
**THE GOAL TO ASSURE THAT COMPREHENSIVE, CULTURALLY ACCEPTABLE PERSONAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES ARE AVAILABLE AND ACCESSIBLE TO AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE PEOPLE.**

**OUR FOUNDATION. TO UPHOLD THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S OBLIGATION TO PROMOTE HEALTH FOR AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE PEOPLE, COMMUNITIES, AND CULTURES AND TO HONOR AND PROTECT THE INHERENT SOVEREIGN RIGHTS OF TRIBES.**

### Injury Prevention Program

#### **OUR MISSION:**

**TO RAISE THE HEALTH STATUS OF AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKAN NATIVES TO THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE LEVEL BY DECREASING THE INCIDENCE OF SEVERE INJURIES AND DEATH TO THE LOWEST POSSIBLE LEVEL AND INCREASING THE ABILITY OF TRIBES TO ADDRESS THEIR INJURY PROBLEMS.**



Billings Area Injury Prevention  
Newsletter is maintained by Darcy  
Merchant.

**Billings Area Indian  
Health Service**

**Office of Environmental  
Health & Engineering**

**Injury Prevention  
Program**

**2900 4th Avenue North  
P.O. Box 36600  
Billings, MT 59107**

**Contacts:**

**Darcy Merchant**

Asst. Area Injury Prevention

Specialist

Billings Area Indian Health Service

Office of Environmental Health  
and Engineering

Injury Prevention Program

2900 4th Avenue North

Billings, MT 59107

Tel: 406-247-7097

Fax: 406-247-7229

E-mail: [Darcy.Merchant@ihs.gov](mailto:Darcy.Merchant@ihs.gov)

**CDR Jodee Dennison, MPH**

Area Injury Prevention Specialist

Billings Area Indian Health Service

Office of Environmental Health  
and Engineering

Injury Prevention Program

2900 4th Avenue North

Billings, MT 59107

Tel: 406-247-7098

Fax: 406-247-7229

E-mail: [Jodee.Dennison@ihs.gov](mailto:Jodee.Dennison@ihs.gov)

Please [click here](#) to visit the  
Billings Area Indian Health  
Service website.