

**Project Name:** Buckle Up Parking Lot Stencils

**Origination Agency & Date:** Created by SW EMS Association and shared with KCTEST who implemented the project in 2016. Now statewide with stencils available in each TZD region.



**Timeline:** Time intensive project. Relatively low-cost but weather and volunteer dependent.

- 1) Request Buckle Up stencil available in each TZD region for the time needed – allowing for cancellations and bad weather.
- 2) Schedule groups to paint for specific date ranges.
- 3) Generate a list of interested businesses and let them know a range of dates that the painting will occur.
- 4) Send a news release to keep media informed and generate interest. Ours lead with: “Local Boy Scouts Caught Spray Painting in Town.” Let them know when you are going out so they can grab photos and quotes from the volunteers.
- 5) Paint the stencils at each entrance and exit at the organization. Let the staff know you are there and why— sometimes the person who authorized the painting does not relay the information to the people who will be there when you paint.
- 6) Find a way to publicly say thank you to your volunteer groups. These groups will be a great resource for future projects!

**Reason for Project:** Seat belts save lives. Lasting messaging. Response agencies working with youth groups is media gold. Let local media know and they will probably cover it.



**Who was on the team?** TZD Coalition members and volunteer groups (boy scouts, church groups, high school sport teams, etc.)

**Lessons Learned:** City or county maintenance crews usually have a sprayer that helps things go much easier if you don't want to use a roller. However, younger groups work better with the roller. We worked with community corrections and the sentence-to-serve crews to work on any remaining parking lots that volunteer groups didn't cover. Submitting an interest request in the Chamber of Commerce newsletter generated a lot of interest. Work with local paint companies, sometimes they will donate paint or supplies. Use high grade parking lot paint. Make sure you put out safety cones and volunteers wear safety vests. We hoped for at least 20 businesses to participate, but the project went over so well that we painted



more than 50 businesses as well as county parks and most city and county government lots. If the stencil isn't available or you just want your own, you can make them out of small plastic children's pools.

**How did you incorporate the 5 E's?** Anybody and everybody can help on this project. It works well to coordinate volunteer groups to work with at least one active coalition member in order to make sure everyone stays safe and the equipment is cleaned up after use.

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