



For 50 years Operation Lifesaver (OL) has been the leading national non-profit organization for rail safety education, committed to preventing collisions, injuries, and fatalities on and around railroad tracks and highway-rail grade crossings for pedestrians and vehicles of all types.

Operation Lifesaver of the Dakotas provides rail safety information and resources across both North Dakota and South Dakota through public education and awareness. Five participating ND rails – Burlington Northern Santa Fe; Canadian Pacific; Dakota Missouri Valley & Western; Northern Plains; and Red River Valley & Western railroads, along with the Operation Lifesaver Committee and North Dakota Safety Council, work collectively in this mission. There is approximately 3,330 active rail track miles across North Dakota (NDDOT Rail Plan 2017) with 290 incorporated communities impacted by rails totaling almost 80% of all ND communities (undocumented source).

Data is essential for decision making regarding incident information, location, and common demographics. The most recent data confirms:

- ✓ Both urban and rural incidents occur; distractions and human error are key factors;
- ✓ The concern for 'near-miss' incidents is growing and of great concern;
- ✓ Isolated / random nature of incidents make identification of trends difficult; and,
- ✓ In the past 12 months, North Dakota had 3 fatalities (1 pedestrian, 1 motorcycle, 1 vehicle).

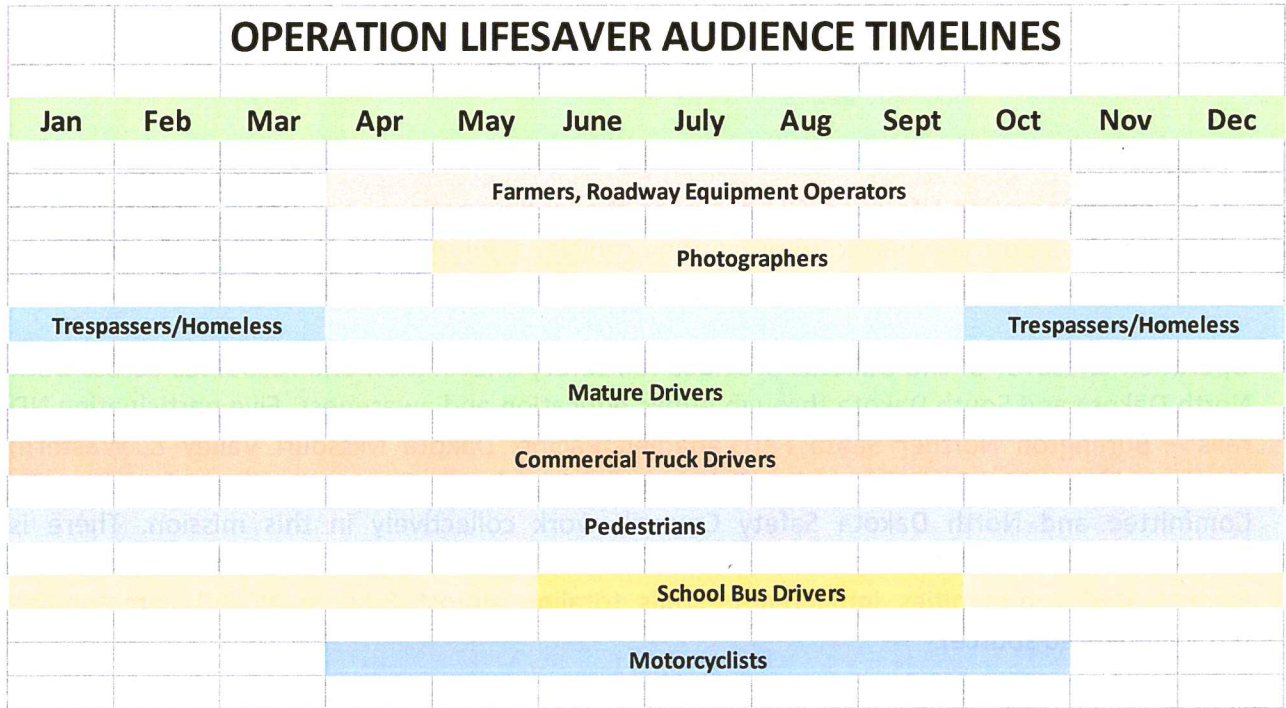
Public education and awareness are primarily delivered through:

- Social media – Facebook, radio, newspaper, with 2 specific campaigns – Bakken Blitz (April/May) and Rail Safety Week (September).
- Education & events – free presentations are provided to school and community groups; OL hosts booths during community and statewide events to disseminate educational and promotional material and discuss rail safety. [2021 dissemination of materials exceeded 31,000 to more than 9400 individuals].
- Partnerships help expand our reach and common messages of safety (i.e. NDSC Traffic Safety, ND Game & Fish, NDDOT).

Operation Lifesaver 2022-2023 goals:

- ✓ Continue public awareness, education and partnerships to the identified target areas described below, including children and special populations
- ✓ Expand presentation efforts and partnerships in South Dakota
- ✓ Re-activate volunteer base which was on hold for two years as a result of COVID-19

OL budget: approximately \$75,000/yr. from ND DOT, railroad contributions and FRA



For more information, contact
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DID YOU KNOW?

The average freight train weighs approximately **6,000** tons. The weight ratio of a car to a train is proportional to a soda can and a car.

SAFETY TIP: Approach crossings with care. Slow down when you see an advanced warning sign.

A 100-car freight train traveling at 55 miles per hour will need more than a **mile** to stop once the train is set into emergency braking.

SAFETY TIP: If your vehicle stalls on the tracks, get out immediately and locate the railroad's emergency number or call 911.

There are approximately **140,000** miles of railroad tracks in the United States.

SAFETY TIP: Expect a train at every crossing. Always look both ways and listen for the sound of an approaching train.

Trains have the right of way **100%** of the time -- even over ambulances, fire engines and the police.

SAFETY TIP: Always yield to an approaching train. Driving around lowered gates is not only dangerous, it's illegal.

FAQs

HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPERATION LIFESAVER AND RAIL SAFETY?

Contact your Operation Lifesaver State Coordinator at 1-800-932-8890 for more information.

HOW CAN I SCHEDULE A PRESENTATION?

Free rail safety presentations are available for groups of all ages and professions. Visit www.ndsc.org/operationlifesaver or call 1-800-932-8890 for more information.

HOW CAN I BECOME A SAFETY VOLUNTEER?

Find out more about becoming trained as an Operation Lifesaver Authorized Volunteer by contacting your State Coordinator at 1-800-932-8890 or by visiting www.ndsc.org/operationlifesaver.



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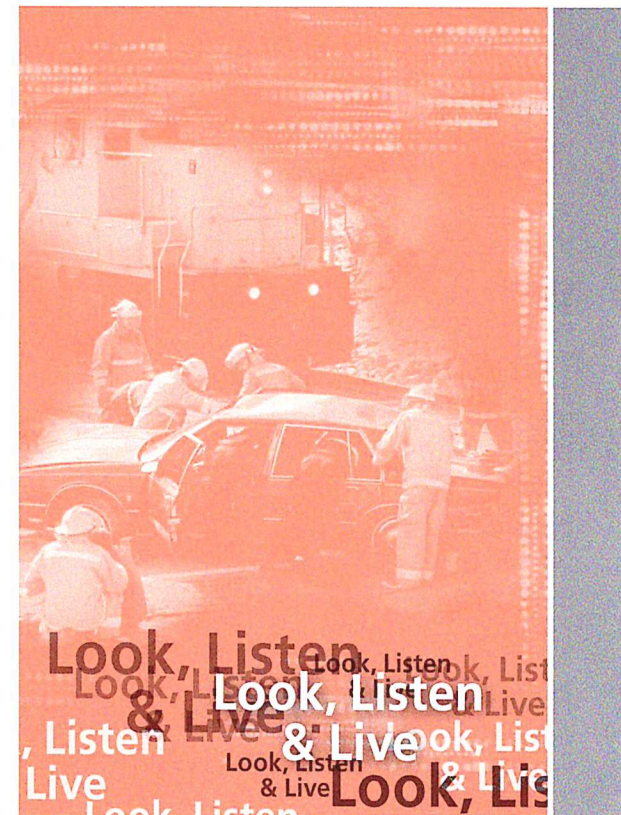
a program of the
ND+SC
NORTH DAKOTA SAFETY COUNCIL

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WHAT IS OPERATION LIFESAVER OF THE DAKOTAS?

IN THE INTEREST OF SAFETY



WHAT IS OPERATION LIFESAVER?

OUR MISSION

Operation Lifesaver is a non-profit, international public education program dedicated to ending tragic collisions, fatalities and injuries at highway-rail grade crossings and on railroad rights-of-way.

The program is sponsored cooperatively by federal, state and local government agencies, highway safety organizations and the nation's railroads.

HOW DOES OPERATION LIFESAVER WORK?

To accomplish our mission, Operation Lifesaver promotes 3 Es:

EDUCATION

Operation Lifesaver strives to increase public awareness about dangers around the rails. The program seeks to educate both drivers and pedestrians to make safe decisions at crossings and around railroad tracks by offering free safety presentations.

ENFORCEMENT

Operation Lifesaver promotes active enforcement of traffic laws relating to crossing signs and signals and private property laws related to trespassing.

ENGINEERING

Operation Lifesaver encourages continued engineering research and innovation to improve the safety of railroad crossings.

HELP OPERATION LIFESAVER SAVE LIVES.



Please help your family members and friends make safe decisions around tracks and trains.

SCHEDULE A PRESENTATION

It's FREE! Authorized Operation Lifesaver volunteers are available to speak to student drivers, professional truck and bus drivers, school bus operators, general motorists, law enforcement, emergency responders and community groups.

VOLUNTEER!

Would you like to help deliver Operation Lifesaver's safety message? Become an Operation Lifesaver Authorized Volunteer and help save lives in your community.

VISIT

Visit www.ndsc.org/operationlifesaver for local news and event information or log on to www.oli.org for the latest safety tips and educational information.

DONATE

Make a contribution to Operation Lifesaver of the Dakotas today and you could save a life! To make a donation, contact your State Coordinator at 1-800-932-8890.

HOW CAN YOU VOLUNTEER?

Each year, Operation Lifesaver's network of trained volunteers conduct free programs on rail safety education for hundreds of groups around the country.

OPERATION LIFESAVER AUTHORIZED VOLUNTEERS

Help us spread our message by becoming an Operation Lifesaver Authorized Volunteer! It's simple - just follow these steps:

- Step 1:** Apply online at www.oli.org
- Step 2:** Complete the Authorized Volunteer e-Learning program (AVE)
- Step 3:** After completing the AVE, attend an in-person or video conference training session
- Step 4:** Start spreading the OL safety message!

VOLUNTEER INCENTIVES

Operation Lifesaver of the Dakotas offers an incentives program to reward volunteers for their dedication to railroad safety. Incentives add up as volunteer time is accumulated. Volunteers could receive personalized Operation Lifesaver gear, gift certificates to their favorite restaurants and more! Volunteers also have the opportunity to attend training events while traveling across the country!

L O O K L I S T E N & L I V E