2026

Give the Gift of Safety...

Safe Kids Grand Forks
Holiday Gift Guide



If you are gifting:

- e-Bikes
- Bike/Scooter/Skateboard
- Kayak/Canoe
- Ice Fishing Equipment
- Housewarming gifts
- Gifts for a new baby

Don't forget:

- Check state and local laws
- The RIGHT helmet
- Life Jacket
- Carbon Monoxide Detector
- Smoke/CO Detector
- Sleep Sack/Pack-N-Play

What to know before you buy:

e-Bikes



Is an e-bike at the top of your child's wish list?

Here are some things you may need to know:

Know your local and state laws:

- In Minnesota, you must be 15 or older to operate an e-Bike
- In Bismarck/Mandan, you must be at least age 12 to operate a class 1 or 2 e-bike, 16 for class 3. Riders under 18 must wear a helmet and speed limit is no more than 15 mph (unless posted)
- Fargo ordinance prohibits any e-scooters capable of going more than 15 mph. No e-scooters are allowed on streets or downtown sidewalks.
- In East Grand Forks, motorized foot scooters (e-scooters) are not allowed on the greenway.

Is it really an e-bike? E-motos might look like e-bikes, and sellers may even call them e-bikes. However, if the device has an engine larger than 750 watts, can go more than 28 mph, and/or has pegs or non-operational pedals, it is an e-moto. This will often need to be registered and insured like a motorcycle, and riders will need a license.

Extra instruction is needed before you let your child loose on their device. Explain the rules of the road and make sure they know how to safely maneuver. Confirm that they know where it is legal and safe for them to ride.!

Check out the AAA E-Ride Ready Safety Guide for information on how to make sure your child is riding safely!

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Safety on Wheels

Protection to go with that new bike (or skateboard, or scooter...)



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Make sure to protect your noggin!

Make sure to choose the right helmet for the activity.

Bike helmets are made to protect your brain in the way that people typically fall off bikes - either forward or to the side. Bike helmets have some benefits such as being lighter weight and having ventilation to keep you cooler.

If you'll get a skateboard, scooter, hoverboard, etc. then a multi-sport helmet is the right choice. These helmets provide more protection in the back of the head, since more often, people fall backward off those kinds of wheels. These can also be worn on a bike, so there is no need to get a bike helmet too, if you like to ride all of the above!

If those wheels have a motor (like a 4-wheeler or dirt bike) or you are planning to get into BMX, remember that regular bike or multi-sport helmets are not enough protection. Be sure to get a helmet that is correct for those sports.

E-Bikes have some different needs and requirements. See the previous page for more information on those wheels and how to stay safe.

Water Safety

Floatation devices
are for everyone!



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Summer seems a long way off, but if kayaks, paddle boards and more are on their wish list...

Water safety starts with formal swimming instruction! Gift a child in your life swimming lessons.

Life jackets are a must if water recreation equipment is going to be wrapped up under the tree this holiday season. Life jackets are sized according to weight, typically under 30lbs, 30-50lbs, 50-90lbs, and 90+lbs.

Look for a strap that goes in between the legs when purchasing infant or child life jackets, and be sure the jacket is rated for the activity that they will be doing.

*Visitors staying in a hotel during the holidays may have occasion to use the hotel pool. Did you know that, through a partnership with the YMCA, you can borrow life jackets for up to 2 weeks - for free? You don't need to be a member of the Y, just call or stop in to check them out.

Winter Sports Enthusiasts of all kinds:

Fun AND Safe!







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Winter weather means sledding, ice skating, skiing, ice fishing and more!

Winter activities call for safety equipment of all kinds...

Carbon Monoxide Alarms:
Those who enjoying hunting and ice fishing can be at risk of carbon monoxide poisoning, especially if they use generators, camp stoves, propane heaters, etc. Portable carbon monoxide detectors can attach to your belt or be hung up in your ice house.

The Right Helmet for your sport:
Protecting your brain doesn't take a winter break. There are appropriate helmets for any of the winter sports you might do.

-Sledding/ice skating: get a multi-sport (skateboard) helmet to protect when you're zooming down the sledding hill. You might also get a dedicated winter sports helmet - these are similar to the multi-sport but have added padding and ear covers for warmth as well as a strap to secure goggles.

-Snowmobiling: a powerful vehicle with an engine requires a DOT approved (motorcycle) helmet for protection.

-Hockey: be sure to wear your hockey helmet along with your pads, even if you're just practicing.

For the new homeowner:

A Safe home is
a Happy home!

There are so many things to remember when you are moving into your new home!

Often, safety devices get forgotten in the flurry of activity when moving into a new home. Here are some gift ideas!



Carbon Monoxide Alarms:
Carbon Monoxide is an odorless and colorless gas that is present when fuel is burned. You can't tell it is there and often the effects mimic a cold or the flu, so victims may not realized they're being poisoned until its too late. The only way to be sure that there is no carbon monoxide present is with an alarm. Be sure there is one on each level of the home and at each bedroom.



Smoke Detectors:
Every level of the home as well as each bedroom need a smoke detector. It is a good idea to check the detectors that may already be present in the home to be sure that they are operational and (in the case of 10-year alarms), that they are still within their usable lifespan.

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New Baby

A new addition...



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Safety for an infant may seem simple, but there is are so many ways to make a home a safer place for the littles.

Safe sleep begins with a dedicated sleeping surface. A crib, bassinet or pack-n-play is appropriate. Babies should never sleep in an adult bed or other soft surface, so consider gifting a safe sleep environment

Don't fall into the trap of getting cute matching crib blankets, bumpers, etc. - none of these belong in bed with a baby! Instead, gift a sleep sack.

If you quilt, or crochet, or knit, maybe wait to give those handmade gifts until the child is older. Nothing should be placed in the crib with baby when they are sleeping.

Older babies require more safety considerations - prepare for them to crawl, climb and get into things. Excellent gifts might be door knob covers, outlet covers, locking boxes for medications, and baby gates.