UP Urges RR Crossing Safety

(KTNC) - Many people will be on the roads this holiday weekend, and Union Pacific Railroad is reminding drivers to use caution at all railroad crossings. Spokesman Mark Davis says it appears that more drivers are not paying attention when approaching tracks. (play audio :25 "railroad crossing.")

Davis says you should never try to beat a train to a railroad crossing because the results could by deadly. (play audio :21 "it's too late.")

Davis says all railroad crossings in the state are well marked, but the accident rate remains the same, whether the crossing has cross-arms or not. (play audio : 18 "or flashing lights.")

Davis says you should never go around cross-arm gates and always stop when the red lights at railroad crossings are flashing.

The statistics are for all railroads operating in Nebraska. In Iowa, there were 43 vehicle-train collisions in 2012 that injured 15 people and killed six. In Illinois there were 104 collisions with 26 fatalities.

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