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Saved by his seat belt, MT man encourages all to buckle up

BUTTE - A Butte man was given an award today by Butte-Silver Bow's Buckle Up and the Montana Highway Patrol for encouraging people to use seat belts after he was in a serious accident earlier this year.

Greg Gardner survived a crash in March while driving north on Interstate 15 near Boulder.

He was given an award at the Butte Courthouse for promoting seat belt use and says he didn't always wear a seat belt, but he was glad he did the day of the accident.

"Obviously I would have died in the accident," Gardner said. "It was a bad accident in which all the airbags were deployed, and totaled the vehicle."

Gardner says he still has some medical issues from the accident, but is making a strong recovery.