



Traffic Safety News

From the Delaware Office of Highway Safety

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Last year, 39 people were killed in alcohol-related crashes on our roadways. These people are not just numbers or statistics that we use to drive home a point. Each of these people is a son or daughter, brother, sister, co-worker, or friend. Lives are changed forever by a single decision: someone's decision to drive while impaired by alcohol or drugs.

What you need to know

You might be surprised to learn that first time offenders account for nearly 70% of all Delaware's DUI arrests. OHS is serious about reducing the number of alcohol-related injuries and deaths in our State. Consider these facts:

- In 2010, 39 of 103 crash fatalities (38%) were alcohol-related
- Crash analysis data revealed that males are more than three times as likely to be killed in an alcohol-related crash. 62% of alcohol-related fatalities were males; 45% of those males were between the ages of 21 and 34.
- Penalties for first offense DUI include:
 - revoked license
 - fines, attorney fees plus time off work for court appearances
 - criminal record
 - mandatory DUI treatment classes with drug testing
 - Ignition Interlock device if applicable
 - increased insurance rates

What you can do

Given the financial, legal and potentially tragic consequences of impaired driving, is it worth the risk to drive home after a night of drinking, regardless of the type of alcohol or the number of drinks consumed?

Make a simple choice, decide not to drive impaired and remind others to do the same. If you are going out and plan to drink, then plan to use a designated driver. Or, be a HERO by being the designated driver for your friends and loved ones. Remember the designated driver is not the person who has had the least amount to drink, but the person who has chosen not to drink at all. Whether you are hosting a party or attending a get-together, plan ahead.

Drive Sober. Arrive Alive DE.

This message is being sent to you by the Delaware Office of Highway Safety, who asks you to drive safely at all times. For more information on this and other traffic safety programs, go to www.ohs.delaware.gov