



Happy New Year!

The New Year is almost here! Make a resolution to have a safe and happy New Year! Here are some tips to help you, your family and your friends celebrate safely:

If you are celebrating with alcohol:

- Make the commitment not to drink and drive before drinking begins.
- Make the commitment not to ride with someone who has been drinking.
- Choose a designated driver ahead of time.
- Always wear a seat belt.
- Call a cab.
- Spend the night.

Party hosts can benefit from these suggestions:

- Have plenty of non-alcoholic drinks available.
- Encourage guests to choose a designated driver ahead of time.
- Have a key basket and take up keys as guests arrive.
- Designate one person to serve as bartender - this allows for better control over size and number of drinks.
- Serve food along with drinks - avoid salty foods.
- Use a fruit-based punch rather than carbonated-based punch.
- Close the bar 90 minutes before the party is over. Then serve a dessert with coffee, tea or soft drinks.
- Remember that only time will sober a person up, and it takes one hour for the alcohol in one drink to clear a person's system.
- Arrange for a shuttle or taxi service to transport guests who have been drinking.

Recognize a drunken driver!

Drivers may be intoxicated if they:

- Make wide turns.
- Straddle lanes or drive on the center line.
- Drift or move in a straight line at a slight angle to the roadway.
- Drive with the headlights off at night.
- Appear to be drunk, exhibiting eye fixation, drive with their face close to the windshield, drink in the vehicle.
- Drive below the speed limit.
- Brake erratically or stop without cause.
- Respond slowly to traffic signals, such as sudden stops or delayed starts.

- Nearly striking an object, curb, etc..
- Weave or zigzag across the road.
- Drive on the wrong side of the road or completely off the roadway.
- Tailgate.
- Accelerate or decelerate rapidly.