

Press Release



Greene County Public Health
A Safe Communities Grantee of Ohio Department of Public Safety
Ohio State Highway Patrol-Traffic Safety Division
360 Wilson Drive, Xenia, OH 45385



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NHTSA Reminds Drivers of the Dangers of Driving High: *If You Feel Different, You Drive Different*

XENIA, OH — The U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and Greene County Public Health's Safe Communities Coalition want to remind everyone: **If You Feel Different, You Drive Different.** Driving while high or drug-impaired is dangerous and can be deadly. This Halloween, make sure you plan ahead for a sober ride home.

"Some people think they drive better when they're high, but that's not true," said Loressa Gonyer, Safe Communities Coalition Coordinator. "Driving while impaired is always risky and always illegal. Our community deserves a safe Halloween night, free from the dangers of drugged driving. If you are high, do not drive."

Local Impact

In Greene County during 2024, there were 61 drug-related crashes, and sadly, 9 of those crashes resulted in a death. These local numbers show just how serious drug-impaired driving can be right here in our community.

The Facts About Drug-Impaired Driving

- Marijuana and other drugs slow reaction time, affect judgment, and make it harder to stay in your lane.
- Even prescription or over-the-counter medicines can make driving unsafe.
- Impaired driving can lead to crashes, injuries, or death — and breaking Ohio's laws can also cost you fines, your license, or even jail time.

How to Stay Safe

- If you plan to use drugs or alcohol, arrange for a sober driver, taxi, or rideshare before you go out.
- If you're too impaired to drive, give your keys to a sober driver.
- Don't let a friend drive high — take their keys and help them find a safe way home.
- If you see an impaired driver, call local law enforcement.

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This Halloween, protect yourself and others: **If You Feel Different, You Drive Different.**

For more information about drug-impaired driving, visit www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drug-impaired-driving.
To learn more about Greene County Safe Communities, contact Loressa Gonyer at
lgonyer@greenecophoh.gov or call **937-374-5655**.

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