

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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Never Drive High on Thanksgiving or Any Day

XENIA, OH — Greene County Public Health's Safe Communities Coalition, along with the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, is reminding drivers about the deadly consequences of drug-impaired driving. For a safe Thanksgiving night, drivers should make plans for a sober ride home. Remember: If You Feel Different, You Drive Different.

"The decision to drive impaired, whether it be by alcohol or drugs, affects every single motorist and family in Ohio," said Lt. Joseph Weeks, Xenia Post Commander. "The Patrol is committed to making our roads safer for everyone, which is why impaired driving of any kind will not be tolerated." Violating Ohio's drug-impaired driving laws can be costly.

Many people believe that being high doesn't affect driving abilities, but they are wrong. It has been proven that marijuana can slow reaction times, impair cognitive performance, and make it more difficult for drivers to keep a steady position in their lane.

Those who plan to use drugs should not drive. Even over-the-counter and prescription medications can have impairing effects. Drivers should arrange for a designated sober driver or call a taxi or rideshare service for a safe ride home.

If a driver finds they are unable to drive, they should give their keys to a sober driver so that person can get them home safely. When a friend has been using drugs and is considering driving, friends should be proactive — take away the keys and help them get a sober ride home. If anyone spots an impaired driver, contact local law enforcement.

Join us and NHTSA in sharing the lifesaving message, If You Feel Different, You Drive Different. For more information on impaired driving, visit www.nhtsa.gov/risky-driving/drug-impaired-driving.

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For more information about Greene County Safe Communities, please call Loressa Gonyer at 937-374-5655 or email lgonyer@greenecophoh.gov or Kaci Warren at 937-374-5673 or email kwarren@greenecophoh.gov.

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