

## Make Your Own Luck

**Don't Drive Impaired on St. Patrick's Day** St. Patrick's Day has become a day many embrace as an opportunity to have fun no matter what their heritage. In addition to festive parades and the wearing o'the green, that fun often includes alcoholic beverages. As the days tick off to March 17, it's a great time to remind colleagues and others that driving while under the influence is never a lucky move.

**St. Patrick's Day is One of the Deadliest Days on Our Nation's Roads:**

- 72 lives were lost in drunk-driving crashes during the St. Patrick's Day holiday period (6 p.m. March 16 to 5:59 a.m. March 18) from 2017–2021.
- 47 people were killed in drunk-driving crashes over the 2021 St. Patrick's Day holiday period.
- Year after year, the rate of impairment among drivers involved in fatal crashes is higher at night on St. Patrick's Day.
- In 2021, 41 of the 47 traffic fatalities involving an impaired driver during the holiday period occurred in the nighttime hours (6p.m. to 5:59 a.m.). Still, 31 daytime fatalities in drunk-driving crashes occurred between 2017 and 2021 over the St. Patrick's Day holiday period.



## Toward Zero Deaths Educational Equipment

TZD recently received new Fatal Vision equipment which includes cannabis goggles. The training for the Fatal Vision alcohol goggles was held December 2023. Training for the Fatal Vision cannabis goggles is scheduled for March 2024. Once training is complete, they will be available for outreach educational opportunities. The kits come with goggles, a large mat for a simulated driving or walking experience, and other items for educational activities. The Fatal Vision goggles are a great way to engage and educate all ages regarding driving impaired.



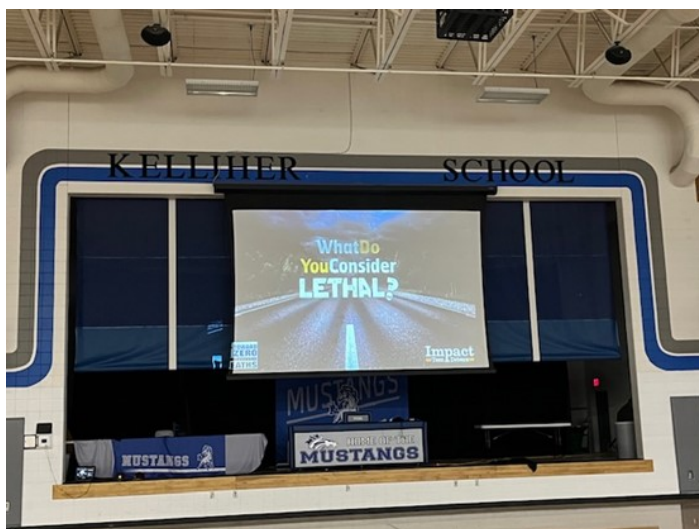
## Enforcement Update:

- DWI (optional): Mar 14-17, 2024—St. Patrick’s Day celebrations
- Distracted; April 1-30, 2024
- Speed: May 1-Sept 2, 2024 (covers 100 deadliest days)



## Impact Teen Drivers

The Minnesota State Patrol and Toward Zero Deaths are excited to share that Minnesota State Patrol and Toward Zero Deaths were able to present the new statewide program, Impact Teen Drivers, to seven schools this year. The initial goal was to reach out to two schools per district to get our feet wet and see how the program went. The program was been widely accepted by the school principals, staff, and students. We recently were invited to Kelliher High School. Lt Brad Norland, Trooper Cody Carlson, and Sue Johnson, TZD, presented to approximately 80 students. The presentations are a perfect opportunity to talk about driver and passenger behavior, engage and build relationships with the students, and provides a venue where students can openly ask questions to enforcement regarding traffic safety, laws, their job,



## Mark you Calendars!

- April 3, 2024—Tribal Summit—Grand Casino -Hinkley, MN
- April 10, 2024—Teen TZD Conference—Evangelical Free Church in TRF
- April 23, 2024—NW Regional TZD Conference—Legacy Center in TRF
- Oct 22 & 23, 2024—TZD State Conference—St. Cloud River’s Edge Convention Center

## Toward Zero Deaths Northwest Regional Newsletter

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