

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 1, 2024**

**Ahead of July 4<sup>th</sup> celebrations, Idaho law enforcement agencies urge drivers to plan a sober ride**

Heyburn, Idaho — This Independence Day Heyburn Police Department is teaming up with the Idaho Transportation Department's Office of Highway Safety (OHS) to prevent impaired driving. July 3 through 10, law enforcement agencies across the state will dedicate resources to stop drivers under the influence of drugs and alcohol. Keep our community safe this Fourth of July and please plan ahead for a sober ride.

The Fourth of July travel period comes during the 100 Deadliest Days on Idaho roads – the summer days between Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends when there is an increase in fatal crashes. According to OHS preliminary data, 31 people have been killed in crashes in Idaho since Memorial Day weekend this year.

Tips to promote safe driving this July 4th:

- **Plan Ahead for a Sober Driver:** Whether heading to a social event or a night out, always plan for a sober driver. This can be a designated friend, a family member, or even a local taxi service.
- **Utilize Ride-Sharing Services:** While ride-sharing options may be limited in rural areas, exploring available services in nearby towns can be a safe alternative to driving yourself. Be aware of areas with poor phone connectivity and plan accordingly.
- **Host Safe Events:** If you're hosting an event where alcohol is served, consider providing non-alcoholic beverages and arranging for transportation options for guests who may need a sober ride home.

For more information on impaired driving, visit [shift-idaho.org](https://www.shift-idaho.org).

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