



News Release

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Safety advocates encourage travelers to plan ahead for a safe Super Bowl weekend

SALEM - Whether your get-together is focused on watching the fun new ads, discussing the quarterback duel, or enjoying the halftime extravaganza, planning ahead is critical to making your Super Bowl Sunday safe. Over the past three years, alcohol has been involved in half of the fatal crashes that occurred during the big game weekend – but in Oregon and around the country, *"Fans don't let fans drive drunk."*

With this national campaign slogan in mind, ODOT and our partners – including Oregon State Police and local city and county law enforcement, Oregon Liquor Control Commission, AAA Oregon and biking/walking safety advocates throughout the state – are encouraging people who will be using the transportation system on game day to put down the distractions and drive, bike or walk sober. By planning ahead, you can secure a safe way to get where you need to be, even if you end up impaired.

Here are some tips to keep in mind:

- Consider taking public transit to and from your game day gathering if that is an option; you can easily arrange the details ahead of time and then relax, knowing you have made plans.
- Before choosing to take even one drink, choose an 'MVP' – a sober designated driver.
- Download and use an app, such as [SaferRide](#), to arrange transportation or notify a sober friend that you need a ride.
- Have plenty of non-alcoholic beverages on hand, and use these [other party tips](#) to keep your friends and family safe.
- Remember, it's illegal to operate a bicycle when you are impaired.
- It's also illegal to drive or bike under the influence of marijuana.
- Always buckle up. It's still your best defense against impaired drivers. Support zero tolerance for impaired driving by reporting them to 9-1-1 or OSP at 1-800-24DRUNK (1-800-243-7865).
- Keep in mind, you can be held liable and prosecuted if someone you served ends up in an impaired-driving crash.

The consequences of making poor choices when it comes to driving impaired can be deadly. In Oregon last year, one person died in an alcohol-involved crash over the Super Bowl weekend. During the 2013 and 2014 event weekends, three people died in three separate crashes and one of those crashes was alcohol-involved.

Make sure your game plan includes safe travel, such as using your community's sober ride program or keeping phone numbers of taxi services handy or programmed into your phone. Plan ahead for your 'team' victory – and keep everyone safe.

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