



CITY OF EDMONDS

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POLICE DEPARTMENT • AN ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

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PRESS RELEASE

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Celebrate Saint Patrick's Day Responsibly

The Edmonds Police Department, in partnership with other law enforcement agencies throughout Snohomish County, is reminding citizens to celebrate Saint Patrick's Day responsibly. Saturday, March 17th marks the holiday that tragically seems to coincide with increased traffic deaths. Statistically, 53.8 percent of the fatality traffic collisions occurring around the Saint Patrick's Day holiday involve an impaired driver. Therefore, Edmonds Police officers will be participating in the Washington Traffic Safety Commission's campaign to reduce impaired driving, "Drive Hammered, Get Nailed."

With Saint Patrick's Day falling on a weekend this year, area liquor establishments may see a greater number of customers celebrating the holiday. The concern is that the increased number of alcohol-drinking customers may result in an increased incidence of over consumption. As a proactive measure, police officers are contacting drinking establishments before the holiday to make them aware of this public safety concern. Furthermore, officers are providing these businesses with educational information and handouts on topics related to the campaign, including safe transportation alternatives for their customers. It's hoped that through this proactive interaction everyone will work toward law enforcement's goal of reaching Target Zero, i.e., zero traffic-related deaths by the year 2030.

The Edmonds Police Department encourages those choosing to celebrate Saint Patrick's Day to make plans ahead of time to get home safely. For those who choose to ignore this advice and instead drive under the influence of alcohol or drugs, they should plan on getting "nailed."

DATE: March 12, 2012

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