



Holiday Greetings from Safetydude LLC to All of You!!!

Happy Holidays

My family and I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a **Very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, and the Happiest of New Years.**

Take the time to enjoy the holidays with friends and family. Relax and come back refreshed. Let's put the past behind us and hope for a better 2025.

Be safe! Don't let an accident ruin your holidays and see you next year!



December is National Impaired Driving Prevention Month



This holiday season, too many American families will have an empty seat at their table after losing a loved one in a drunk or drug-impaired driving accident. More than 10,000 Americans die every year in these preventable crashes. During National Impaired Driving Prevention Month, we call on everyone to help save a life by planning ahead, calling for a ride, only driving when sober, and helping friends and loved ones do the same.

Nearly a third of deadly car wrecks in America involve alcohol, and some 26 million people drove under the influence in 2020, endangering themselves, passengers and passersby, and the law enforcement officers who work to keep our roads safe. Just one drink or pill can destroy a cascade of lives.

The best way to reduce the deadly cost of impaired driving is prevention, which starts by raising awareness of its risks and consequences and by working to treat substance misuse in the first place. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has invested in media campaigns like "If You Feel Different, You Drive Different"; "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over"; and "Drive High, Get a DUI," but it is on all of us to help spread the word, offer to be a designated driver for others when we can, and call a ride or ask for help when we need it.

As we head into the holiday seasons, we urge Americans everywhere to do the right thing. If you plan on drinking, arrange a sober ride home in advance; ride-sharing apps have made getting home safely easier than ever. If you have used any substance, never get behind the wheel. Get help. It matters. You could save a life.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Holiday Greetings!
- 1 December is National Impaired Driving Month
- 2 Decorate Safely!
- 2 Food Poisoning is No Joke!
- 2 Safety Tip of the Month
- 2 Notes From the Editor



Decorate Safely!



Decorating is one of the best ways to get in a holiday mood, but emergency rooms see thousands of injuries involving holiday decorating every season.

When decorating follow these tips from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission:

- Keep potentially poisonous plants – mistletoe, holly berries, Jerusalem cherry and amaryllis – away from children.
- If using an artificial tree, check that it is labeled “fire resistant”.
- If using a live tree, cut off about 2 inches of the trunk to expose fresh wood for better water absorption, remember to water it, and remove it from your home when it is dry.
- Place your tree at least 3 feet away from fireplaces, radiators and other heat sources, making certain not to block doorways.
- Avoid placing breakable ornaments or ones with small, detachable parts on lower tree branches where small children can reach them.
- Only use indoor lights indoors and outdoor lights outdoors and choose the right ladder for the task when hanging lights.
- Replace light sets that have broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections.
- Follow the package directions on the number of light sets that can be plugged into one socket.
- Never nail, tack or stress wiring when hanging lights and keep plugs off the ground away from puddles and snow.
- Turn off all lights and decorations when you go to bed or leave the house.

Food Poisoning is No Joke!



Keep your holidays happy by handling food safely. The foodsafety.gov website from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services provides some valuable holiday food safety tips:

- Wash your hands frequently when handling food.
- Keep raw meat away from fresh produce.
- Use separate cutting boards, plates and utensils for uncooked and cooked meats to avoid cross-contamination.
- Use a food thermometer to make sure meat is cooked to a safe temperature.
- Refrigerate hot or cold leftover food within two hours of being served.
- When storing turkey, cut the leftovers in small pieces so they will chill quickly.
- Thanksgiving leftovers are safe for three to four days when properly refrigerated.

Safety Tip of the Month

The holiday season is known for being merry and bright, but it is also known for being the deadliest season when it comes to drunk driving. Unfortunately, every holiday season, lives are lost due to impaired drivers. Be smart - don't drink and drive. Use an alternative way home. Drink responsibly!

Notes From the Editor

Send articles or opinions to:

Bill Devinney, Owner/Safety Consultant
Safetydude, LLC
4836 Hardware Dr. NE Suite A
Albuquerque, NM 87109
Phone: 505-259-8556
Or e-mail me at devinneywilliamr@msn.com