



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
TRANSPORTATION CABINET
transportation.ky.gov

Andy Beshear
GOVERNOR

Jim Gray
SECRETARY

Contact: Marla Marrs
Office of Highway Safety
(502) 352.5963
marla.marrs@ky.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Kentuckians Reminded To Arrange Sober Transportation for St. Patrick's Day

Celebrate with a designated driver, return home safely

FRANKFORT, Ky. (March 12, 2026) –This St. Patrick's Day, Team Kentucky is reminding everyone to do their part to prevent drunk driving and avoid turning celebration into tragedy. Kentuckians who plan to drink should think ahead by arranging a safe ride or designated sober driver to keep themselves and others safe.

"This St. Patrick's Day, we ask that everyone does their part to make sure you are keeping yourself and your fellow Kentuckians safe," said Transportation Cabinet Secretary Jim Gray. "If you plan to drink, plan for a sober driver to get home safely."

To improve roadway safety, the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet's (KYTC) Office of Highway Safety is joining the [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration \(NHTSA\)](#) to remind everyone that Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving.

Over the past three years, KYTC reported 40 crashes statewide related to a drunk driver on St. Patrick's Day, resulting in 17 injuries and one fatality. Last year, approximately 14 percent of deaths on Kentucky roadways were due to a drunk driver.

To help prevent tragedies, take these steps:

- **Plan a sober ride.** If you drink at all, use a designated driver, public transit, or a ride-share service.
- **Don't walk impaired.** Choose a sober companion and stay alert. Impairment increases the risk in everyday tasks like walking.
- **Report dangerous driving.** Make an anonymous call to Kentucky State Police at 1-800-222-5555 to report suspected drunk drivers.
- **Step in for friends.** Take the keys and help arrange a safe ride home.
- **Buckle up every trip, every time.** Seat belts are the best defense against serious injury or death.

###

Editor's note: Visit trafficsafetymarket.gov to download the images below.

