



Village of Harwood Heights Police Department
7300 W. Wilson Ave. Harwood Heights, Illinois 60706

Press Release

This St. Patrick's Day, plan before you party!
Remember: Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over

March 7th, 2024

Harwood Heights, IL – St. Patrick's Day is just around the corner, and many Illinoisans will be celebrating with parades and parties featuring green beer and cocktails. To remind motorists of the dangers of drunk driving and to help keep our streets safe, The Harwood Heights Police Department is teaming up with the Illinois State Police and the Illinois Department of Transportation for a stepped-up traffic safety campaign.

“Because St. Patrick's Day falls on a Sunday this year, we anticipate that alcohol consumption will increase both that day and throughout the weekend,” said Sergeant Nick Ramirez. “We ask everyone to celebrate responsibly, starting with a plan for a sober ride home before you leave the house.”

In addition to looking for impaired drivers, the Harwood Heights Police Department will be stepping up seat belt enforcement, particularly at night when seat belt usage rates are lowest.

Whether you're attending a party, hosting friends, or going out to a bar, keep safety at the forefront of your day and night. When it's time to leave, make sure your designated driver is sober. Other important tips:

- Designate a sober driver or plan to use public transportation or a ride service.
- If you see an impaired driver on the road, contact law enforcement.
- Have a friend who is about to drive impaired? Take the keys away and plan to get your friend home safely.
- Always buckle up!

The St. Patrick's Day enforcement campaign is funded by federal traffic safety funds from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and administered by IDOT.

For more information contact:

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