

March 2005—Ground Safety Briefing



FRIENDS DON'T LET FRIENDS DRIVE DRUNK THIS ST. PATRICK'S DAY

- St. Patrick's Day has become a big night out for many Americans, particularly young adults. But it is also a very dangerous night out due to impaired drivers
- Americans who drive while impaired on St. Patrick's Day make it a high-risk evening on the nation's roadways.
- According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), 32 percent of all traffic fatalities on the nation's highways around St. Patrick's Day in 2003 were the result of impaired drivers.

- If you plan on using alcohol to celebrate St. Patrick's Day:
 - Designate your sober driver before the party begins and give that person your car keys;
 - Don't starve yourself before or during the party. Enjoy the food as well as the drink;
 - Avoid drinking too much alcohol too fast. Pace yourself – eat, take breaks, alternate with non-alcoholic drinks;
 - If impaired, don't even think about getting behind the wheel. Ask a sober friend for a ride home; call a cab, friend or family member to come and get you, call your local sober rides program, use mass transit, or stay where you are and sleep it off until you are sober;
 - And remember, *Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk*. Take the keys and never let a friend leave your sight if you think they are about to drive while impaired.

A POT OF GOLD AND A LITTLE JIG
WON'T GET YOU OUT OF THIS ONE.

Every 30 minutes, nearly 50 times a day, someone in America dies in an impaired driving-related crash. This means you, your friends, your family are regularly at risk.

Don't depend on dumb luck this St. Patrick's Day.

