

NEW YEAR'S EVE SAFETY



Topics

Hazards of traveling

Going out

Staying in

Alcohol awareness

Eye hazards

Pet safety

Fireworks

Stay Off The Roads

Most of the danger on New Year's Eve will be on the roads

- ▣ There will be plenty of people who think they're sober enough to drive
- ▣ Try to stay wherever you are for the night
 - Avoid the risks of getting hit by a drunk driver!



Stay Off The Roads

Deaths shoot up 150% on New Year's because of drunk drivers

- ▣ Every year, there are 16,000 alcohol-related car accidents
- ▣ Someone is killed every half hour due to drunk driving
- ▣ 30% of Americans will be involved in a car accident involving alcohol – this year

Going Out

Avoid driving between 8 p.m. and 2 a.m

Don't drink and drive:

- ▣ Have a designated driver
- ▣ Make a reservation for a taxi
- ▣ Use public transportation



Going Out

- ▣ Bring only what you need in your handbag or wallet
- ▣ If you are driving, park in a well-lit area that's populated
- ▣ Check that your windows are rolled up, doors are locked and valuables are out of sight
- ▣ Travel with a group or in pairs

Call the Topsy Tow!

If you must get home with your car, call
AAA

- ▣ The Topsy Tow will take you, your car and as many friends will fit in the truck
- ▣ Call 1-800-AAA-HELP (1-800-222-4357), 24 hours per day, 7 days per week



Spot and Avoid Drunk Drivers

The following should help you spot and avoid dangerous drivers:

- ❑ Be aware of cars that are speeding, drifting across lanes and erratically braking
- ❑ Watch for high beams
- ❑ Watch for headlights off or parking lights on
- ❑ Watch for drivers with interior light on



Spot and Avoid Drunk Drivers

- ▣ Never pass a driver you suspect is drunk
- ▣ Lose a tailgater by making a right-hand turn when you can do so safely
- ▣ Keep your distance at intersections
 - On New Year's Eve you should make it three car lengths
- ▣ Remain on alert after sunrise. Many people will try to `sleep off' the alcohol, then start driving at daybreak

Going out

- ▣ Make your empty house seem lively
 - Leave your TV on
 - Leave lights on
- ▣ Avoid sharing your location on social media
 - You are publicly alerting others that you are not at home!



Staying In

Have guests turn their keys in upon arrival so that you can ensure everyone has a safe ride home

- ▣ Ask your guests if they have a designated driver
- ▣ Call your own local taxi company
 - Ask if cabs will be available to take guests home



Staying In

- ▣ Serve non-alcoholic beverages as an option to your guests
- ▣ Have two colors of cups: one for adult beverages and one for non-alcoholic ones
- ▣ Stop serving alcohol to your guests several hours before the party ends
- ▣ Provide your guests with a place to stay overnight in your home

Alcohol Consumption

- ▣ Make sure you stay hydrated (with water)
- ▣ Do not leave drinks unattended
- ▣ Carbonated mixers cause alcohol to be absorbed more quickly
- ▣ Fruit juice and sweet mixers mask the taste of alcohol and cause people to drink more



Champagne Cork Hazard

Champagne bottles contain pressure as high as *90 pounds* per square inch!

- ▣ A popped champagne cork traveling at up to *50 mph*, could cause:
 - Rupture of the eye wall
 - Acute glaucoma
 - Retinal detachment
 - Ocular bleeding
 - Dislocation of the lens
 - Damage bone structure



How Not To Shoot Your Eye Out

- ▣ Chill to 45 degrees
- ▣ Don't shake the bottle
- ▣ Point bottle at a 45-degree angle away from bystanders
- ▣ Hold down the cork with the palm of hand while removing the wire hood
- ▣ Place a towel over the entire top of the bottle
- ▣ Grasp the cork and twist the bottle



Pet Safety

Pets can easily get scared with the fireworks, noise and large crowd

- ▣ Make sure that your pet has an ID tag with current information
- ▣ Keep your pets **INSIDE**, in a comfortable room
- ▣ Ask your veterinarian for tranquilizers if your animal has shown signs of extreme uneasiness in the past



Fireworks

Don't Burn Down the Neighborhood!

- ▣ If you light any fireworks, please only use legal ones
- ▣ Fire them away from houses
- ▣ Don't let kids and pets near them



Have a Safe and
Happy New Year's!



“New Year’s Day: Now is the accepted time to make your regular annual good resolutions. Next week you can begin paving hell with them as usual.”

— Mark Twain

