



Conducted through the Lorain County General Health District
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Don't depend on dumb luck
this St. Patrick's Day.

Friends
Don't Let
Friends
Drive Drunk.
Designate a Sober Driver.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: March 8, 2010

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Re: **Safe Community Coalition Spreading Sober Luck this St. Patrick's Day Season**

(Lorain County, Ohio) — For many Americans, St. Patrick's Day has become a popular night to celebrate with friends and family with a green beer in hand. Unfortunately, due to the large volume of impaired drivers, the night has also become very dangerous. Wellington Fire Department Chief and Safe Community Coalition (SCC) member, Bob Walker warns, "Alcohol, drugs and driving don't mix. Don't test your luck this St. Patrick's Day. Drive Sober."

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 134 people were killed in traffic-related crashes on St. Patrick's Day in 2008. Out of that number, 37% involved a drunk driver or motorcycle rider with a blood alcohol concentration of .08 or higher.

Therefore, the Lorain County Safe Community Coalition (SCC) is joining with federal, state and local highway safety and law enforcement officials across the nation to remind all those who plan on celebrating during the St. Patrick's Day festivities to drink responsibly and designate a sober driver before the party begins.

St. Patrick's Day "Kiss Me I'm Sober" driving messages have been distributed on 1,000 alcohol bottles at all nine Discount Drug Mart location in Lorain County and the Vermilion location. Chief Walker and Lieutenant Brown of the Wellington Fire Department tagged the Wellington Discount Drug Mart location, posed for photographs and appeared in a short film regarding the importance of celebrating St. Patrick's Day safely by designating a sober driver.

Don't depend on the luck 'O the Irish this St. Patrick's Day - visit www.loraincountysafecommunity.com for Chief Walker and Lieutenant Brown's safe St. Patrick's Day video, photographs of their bottle tagging efforts, and a St. Patrick's Day flyer reminding drivers not to drive impaired available to download on Resource & Materials section.

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