



NEWS

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MCHD Reminds Holiday Travelers to Drive Safe This Labor Day

Norristown, PA (August 23, 2013) – As the Labor Day Holiday brings family and friends together to celebrate the unofficial end of summer, law enforcement officials in Montgomery County are gearing up to participate in a nation-wide crackdown on impaired driving. Impaired driving continues to be one of the most deadly and harmful crimes in the United States. Each year, drunk drivers are involved in crashes that take the lives of thousands of innocent people. Across the United States and in Montgomery County there is an increase in DUI related crashes over the Labor Day weekend prompting police to increase enforcement efforts across the state. In addition to looking for alcohol impaired drivers, police in Montgomery County will be focusing on drug impaired drivers. Mixing certain medications or illegal drugs with alcohol can exaggerate alcohol's effects and cause increased impairment.

DUI crashes are 100% preventable and Montgomery County municipal police departments will be working together to prevent these crashes by coordinating DUI checkpoints. Abington Regional, Hatfield Regional, Montgomery Regional, Pottstown Regional, Valley Forge Area, and Lower Merion DUI Taskforces, will be out enforcing Pennsylvania's DUI laws during this national crackdown, which runs now through September 2, 2013.

The Montgomery County Health Department Community Traffic Safety Project reminds all holiday travelers to drive safe this Labor Day Holiday. The Montgomery County Community Traffic Safety Project is focused on safety programming regarding seat belt usage, school bus safety and etiquette, teen driving, impaired driving, and pedestrian safety and is available to all schools and community organizations in Montgomery County. In addition, other educational opportunities are available through the Health Department covering topics such as child passenger safety, aggressive driving, vehicle safety for seniors, bicycle and motorcycle safety. All of these programs are provided to the

community free of charge through a funding initiative from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

For more information, please contact Katie Kucz, Montgomery County Health Department, Health Promotion Division at 610-278-5117 ext. 6787 or via email at kkucz@montgopa.org, or visit www.montcopa.org/health.