

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

GOVERNOR PHIL MURPHY

ICYMI: STATE POLICE URGES RESPONSIBLE DRIVING ON LAND AND WATER THIS LABOR DAY WEEKEND

From the New Jersey State Police:

ICYMI: State Police Urges Responsible Driving on Land and Water this Labor Day Weekend

WEST TRENTON – The official end of summer is upon us, which means many will take advantage of the long Labor Day weekend to head to the Jersey shore and other vacation destinations for one last balmy getaway. Residents and tourists alike can expect increased traffic and congestion on our roadways and waterways this weekend. Responsible vehicle operation both on and off of the water is the first step to ensuring a safe holiday for everyone.

During the 2017 Labor Day holiday period, three out of the four fatal crashes in New Jersey involved impairment from alcohol or drugs as a contributing factor. If you plan on drinking alcohol this weekend, don't make a bad decision by getting behind the wheel. Tragedies can be avoided by calling a taxi, using transportation applications such as Uber and Lyft, having a designated driver, or making plans to stay where you are.

In addition to regularly scheduled patrols, the New Jersey State Police will have an additional 149 troopers on patrol statewide. Troopers will focus on violations such as speeding, aggressive driving, improper cell phone use, seatbelt usage, fatigued driving, and DWI.

The State Police Marine Bureau will also be patrolling the state's waterways, focusing on impaired boat operation and people recklessly operating personal watercraft and other powered vessels. Marine troopers will also be checking to see that boat operators have obtained the proper licenses to operate watercraft. A good synopsis of boating requirements can be found on the State Police website at www.njsp.org (<http://www.njsp.org>) under boating safety.

"Driving a motor vehicle or operating a boat or watercraft under the influence could result in this Labor Day weekend being the last for you, a friend, a loved one, or an innocent person," **said Colonel Patrick Callahan of the New Jersey State Police**. "Although public safety is our top priority, we cannot do it alone. Regardless of what you plan on doing this weekend, please enjoy the holiday safely and responsibly."

The 2018 Labor Day holiday officially begins at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, August 1, and ends at 5:59 a.m., on Tuesday, September 4.

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