



As the end of the year approaches, the risk of accidents goes up.

Miles To Go wishes your family a safe and Happy New Year and offers the following 12 tips for a safe NYE 2014:

1. Designate your driver before the party or event commences.
2. Separate the alcoholic drinks from the non-alcoholic drinks.
3. Provide different cups for anyone under 21. Put them in a completely different area of the room, so little kids who can't read the sign that says "ADULTS ONLY" still know which drinks to take.
4. Don't serve sparkling ciders or non-alcoholic beverages in champagne glasses to your guests who are under 21. You can provide a special glass for your underage drinkers, but pick a style that is definitively different from the one your adult drinkers are using for alcoholic beverages.
5. Surprise the guest who snoops in your medicine cabinet with a marble trap: just arrange a fragile nest of marbles that will spill out if the door is opened. Don't have any marbles? As an easy alternative, you can tape our cautionary artwork to the inside of your medicine cabinet. [Click here](#) for pdf printable sign on our website.
6. Eat and serve food throughout the night if you and your guests are drinking.
7. Let your kids see you and your friends having fun without getting drunk.
8. Don't use acetaminophen (Tylenol) with alcohol or after drinking.
9. Be sure you and your children remember to never get into a car with someone who has been drinking or using drugs. This is an absolute--there is no justification that allows this rule to be broken.
10. Establish a code word with your child that lets him alert you to a problem without having to embarrass himself in front of a crowd. If he uses the code word, extract him from the situation in the manner you rehearsed. Do not immediately make him explain to you why he is using the code word--there will be plenty of time for that later.
11. Chaperones should not drink during the event. If they consume alcohol while attempting to prevent others from doing so, it sends a mixed message. It also means they will be much less capable of doing their job. Be sure to have enough adult supervision if you are hosting a teen party, and offer to chaperone if your teen is going to a party.

12. **NOBODY DRIVES AFTER DRINKING, INCLUDING YOU!** Remember, in addition to the tragic loss of life drunk driving can cause, the monetary penalties are daunting as well. The average cost for a DUI arrest, including fines, court costs, lawyer's fees and insurance increases: \$16,500 for anyone over 21. Costs soar to \$22,500 for those under 21.

If you need to travel after drinking, don't drive! Try these ideas instead:

Free Towing: The AAA (American Automobile Association) offers free towing for up to 7 miles (you ride along in the truck) between the hours of 6 p.m. on Tuesday, December 31st through 6 a.m. Wednesday, January 1, 2013. To get a free ride from AAA Topsy Tow if you drink too much on New Year's Eve, just call 1-800-222-4357(1-800-AAA-Help) and ask for Topsy Tow. You do not have to be a AAA member to take advantage of this offer. Be aware that rates and fees after the first 7 miles vary by tow company, but if you consider the monetary costs listed above if you get caught driving drunk, any fee pales in comparison. If you were to kill someone while driving drunk, money would be the least of your worries.

Designated Driver Directory: [DrinkingAndDriving.org](http://www.drinkinganddriving.org) offers the NDDDS National Directory of Designated Driver Services With 530 listings, 307 counties - 45 states. Scroll to the bottom of the page for the list of services by state.
<http://www.drinkinganddriving.org/tools/services.html>

Your Car Our Driver - This innovative service in Orange County is how one entrepreneur is saving lives. One of our schools sent out these smart cards with every invitation to their event where alcohol would be served - [click here to see the card](#). People attending the event not only supported the idea, a number of them actually ended up using the service. Find one of these services in advance and send it to your guests as an option. Don't feel it is an insult, it's the smart way to invite guests to relax and enjoy themselves.
<http://www.yourcarourdriver.com/index.php>

LA Metro offers FREE rides on NYE:

Click Here for the details <http://www.metro.net/riding/new-years/>

Here's an important update from KABC-7's morning report:

[Click here for the full report](#)

http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/local/los_angeles&id=9374443

DUI drivers may face instant drug tests in LA - including medical marijuana. Friday, December 27, 2013

From the story: "The L.A. City Attorney's Office received a half-million-dollar federal grant to expand use of a device called the Drager 5000. A swab of saliva is taken from a driver, and within minutes the device analyzes the presence of cocaine, marijuana and other substances. A second saliva swab is taken for independent testing."

Christina Salvo reported on 12/29/13 Sunday's 7am broadcast that there have been more than 1600 DUI arrests in LA County and 600 in Orange County only since 12/13/13!



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