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# Watch for Slow-Moving Striping Crews on the Roads

MAY 10TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

## Watch for Slow-Moving Striping Crews on the Roads

MoDOT's annual roadway striping operations have started and drivers will see slow-moving caravans of trucks refreshing the lines on the roadway.

Striping crews must travel slowly as they paint roadway markings to ensure a good quality line. The striping trains move between 8 and 12 mph when workers are painting white and yellow lines on the highways. The trucks have flashing lights, boards with flashing arrows and signs that say "SLOW VEHICLES" and "WET PAINT."

MoDOT crews will be striping two-lane roadways in the spring and fall and working on freeways and expressways in June, July and August.

Crisp, easy-to-see striping is a significant safety feature on roadways. The paint contains glass beads that reflect light from headlights in the dark.

Most of the striping is done during daylight hours; however, it is not uncommon to see crews working at night on interstate highways and other high-volume divided highways. Rain or very damp conditions will cancel or cut short any striping work that is scheduled.

### **Check out these safety tips that will help you navigate striping operations:**

- Please don't drive distracted. Wear your seat belt and put your phone down. Be patient if you come across MoDOT crews. and give them space to do their jobs safely.
- Start to slow down as soon as you see the lights and signs, and keep your distance until it is safe to go around the trucks.
- On four-lane divided highways, pull around the striping train by merging carefully into the open lane, then passing all the trucks in the train before moving back into the lane.
- On two-lane highways, stay behind the last truck in the striping train. This vehicle is placed well behind the striping truck to give the new paint the few minutes it needs to dry. If traffic backs up behind the striping train, MoDOT crews will pull out of the way where it is safe to do so and let congestion clear.
- MoDOT uses water-based paint in all of its highway operations. If you drive through wet paint, clean your car as quickly as possible with a high-powered water hose, such as those used in car washes.

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## Watch Out for Motorcycles!

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MAY 08TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Watch Out for Motorcycles!](#)

Warm spring weather has arrived, and motorcyclists are eager to hit the road. As they rev their engines and prepare for numerous road trips to come, the Missouri Coalition for Roadway Safety wants to remind motorists and motorcyclists alike to watch for motorcycles to help prevent motorcycle crashes, deaths and injuries on Missouri roadways.

**The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration offers the following tips to drivers on how to prevent a fatal crash with a motorcycle:**

- Allow the motorcycle the full width of a lane at all times.
- Always signal when changing lanes or merging with traffic.
- Check all mirrors and blind spots for motorcycles before changing lanes or merging with traffic, especially at intersections.
- Never drive distracted or impaired.

**Motorcyclists must also take precautions to remain safe on the road. Motorcyclists can increase their safety by following these steps:**

- Wear a DOT-compliant helmet and other protective gear.
- Obey all traffic laws and be properly licensed and trained.
- Wear brightly colored clothes and reflective tape to increase visibility.
- Ride in the middle of the lane where you will be more visible to drivers.
- Never ride distracted or impaired.
- Anticipate the moves of other drivers and be extra cautious of road conditions and debris.

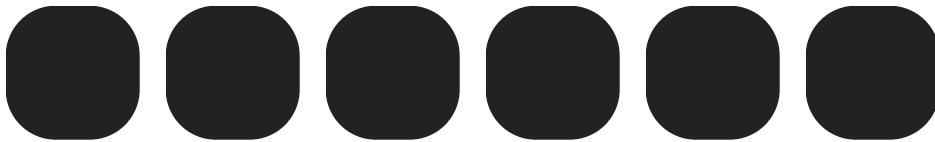
Motorcycle experts recommend motorcyclists also complete some type of training before getting out on the road. There are 25 training locations in Missouri. You can find the one nearest you at [www.mmmsp.org](http://www.mmmsp.org).

For more information, visit [www.saveMOlives.com](http://www.saveMOlives.com) or find us on social media at Save MO Lives. Arrive Alive.

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# Dexter PD's Youth Alcohol Enforcement Campaign Joins National Crackdown To Reduce Drunk Driving Fatalities

APRIL 30TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Dexter PD's Youth Alcohol Enforcement Campaign Joins National Crackdown To Reduce Drunk

## **Dexter Police Department's Youth Alcohol Enforcement Campaign Joins National Crackdown To Reduce Drunk Driving Fatalities**

Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over' Campaign Will Target Substance–Impaired Drivers.

Dexter, Missouri - Local and state law enforcement will be out in full force as part of the annual nationwide May/Youth Alcohol Enforcement Crackdown “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” substance–impaired driving crackdown. The crackdown, which will include high-visibility enforcement throughout Dexter, will run from May 3-14, 2018.

The effective nationwide substance–impaired driving crackdown will include high-visibility enforcement, high-profile events, and will be supported by national paid advertising, creating a comprehensive campaign to curb substance–impaired driving during the enforcement period.

Dexter Police said its officers will be aggressively looking for substance–impaired drivers during the crackdown and will arrest anyone caught driving impaired. Although it is illegal in all 50 States, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico to drive impaired (having a blood alcohol concentration of .08 or higher), far too many people across the nation get

behind the wheel after consuming alcohol or other illegal drugs. The latest statistics from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration underscore the serious nature of the nation's continuing drunk driving epidemic.

“Every year, about one third of all motor vehicle traffic deaths involve one or more substance- impaired drivers or motorcycle operators,” said Captain Trevor Pulley. “In 2017, 185 people were killed and 592 seriously injured on Missouri’s roadways in crashes that involved at least one substance-impaired driver.” That works out to approximately one substance-impaired driver involved fatality every (2) two days.

Captain Pulley added the St. Patrick’s Day holiday is particularly dangerous. During 2017, 51 people were killed or seriously injured involving at least one substance-impaired driver that was under 21 years of age.

Research has shown that high-visibility enforcement like the 'Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over' campaign reduces substance-impaired driving fatalities by as much as 20 percent. By joining this nationwide effort, we will make [Local Area]’s roadways safer for everyone throughout the holiday,” said Captain Pulley.

“We want to remind everyone that getting behind the wheel impaired is a terrible idea. Unfortunately, not only does being under the influence impair your ability to operate a vehicle safely, it also impairs your judgment and good sense about whether you can, or should drive. If you have any doubt about your sobriety, do not get behind the wheel. If you do chose to drive impaired, you will be arrested. No warnings. No excuses,” Captain Pulley said.

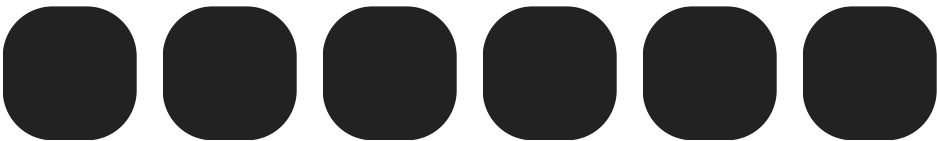
Captain Pulley noted that being arrested for driving under the influence of any substance brings a wide range of negative consequences into one’s life. Substance-impaired drivers face jail time, loss of their driver licenses, and steep financial consequences such as higher insurance rates, attorney fees, court costs, lost time at work, and the potential loss of their job. When family, friends and co-workers find out, violators also often face tremendous personal embarrassment.

“Driving while impaired is simply not worth the risk. So don’t take the chance. Remember, we will be out in force and we will be watching, so ‘Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over,’” said Captain Pulley.

For more information, visit the “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” Campaign Headquarters at [www.TrafficSafetyMarketing.gov](http://www.TrafficSafetyMarketing.gov) , or [www.saveMOlives.com](http://www.saveMOlives.com) .

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# Juror Appreciation Week 2018 Begins Sunday

APRIL 30TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

Juror Appreciation Week 2018 Begins Sunday

*April 29-May 5 event thanks the more than 75,000 Missourians who reported for Jury Duty in 2017*

Missouri - Judges, lawyers and court clerks thank the 75,181 Missourians who reported for jury duty in state courts in 2017 as part of Missouri's Juror Appreciation Week held April 29 through May 5, 2018. During the week, court staff and legal professionals will emphasize to jurors how important their contributions are to our courts, communities and legal system.

2017-18 Missouri Bar President Morry Cole said it is important to keep in mind that the right to a jury trial is a constitutional promise.

“Maintaining the right to a trial by jury is fundamental to upholding our constitution and democracy. As lawyers and judges, we appreciate those who give their time to promote justice for all,” Cole said.

More than 50 courthouses throughout the state will observe the week in different ways. Many will display a poster provided by The Missouri Bar thanking jurors for doing their part. Judges also may take additional time to thank jurors and to acknowledge the significance of their service. Other activities include special ceremonies and official proclamations marking the event. Even more Missourians can join the celebration and share photos of their activities on social media using #ThankAJuror.

“Our resources are here to help court officials celebrate this important event,” Cole said. “Observing Juror Appreciation Week—with visual aids, a visit from a judge or otherwise—reminds Missourians that their jury service helps carry out the promises stated in our country's Sixth and Seventh Amendments.”

Missouri is one of only a few states that hold a statewide Juror Appreciation Week. The observance began in 2000 by an order of the Supreme Court of Missouri, which states, “Each year thousands of Missourians perform one of the most significant civic duties granted to citizens -- they serve as fair and impartial jurors in communities throughout the state. To honor those citizens who have performed their civic duty, all Missouri courts are directed to observe Juror Appreciation Week...”

Visit the event webpage to learn more about Juror Appreciation Week or take a quiz to test your knowledge on jury service.

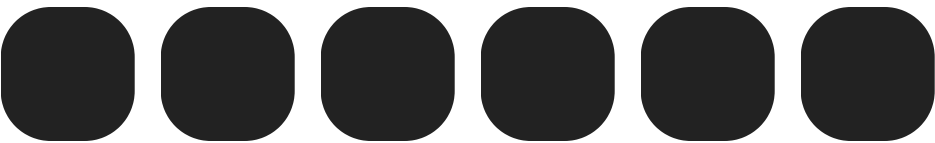
The Missouri Bar is a statewide organization that is dedicated to improving the legal profession, the law and the administration of justice for all Missourians. Created in 1944 by order of the Supreme Court of Missouri, it serves all 30,000 of Missouri's practicing lawyers. The Missouri Bar provides a wide range of services and resources to its

members, as well as the media, educators and the citizens of Missouri.

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Dexter PD and DEA Drug Take-Back Day

APRIL 24TH 2018 BY DEE LOFLIN

[Dexter PD and DEA Drug Take-Back Day](#)



Dexter, Missouri - On Saturday, April 28th, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m, the Dexter Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration will give the public an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs.

"Bring your pills for disposal to the lobby of the Dexter Police Department at 305 Cooper Street, in Dexter. (The DEA cannot accept liquids or needles or sharps, only pills or patches.) The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked," commented Trevor Pulley.

Too often, unused prescription drugs find their way into the wrong hands. That's dangerous and often tragic. That's why it was great to see thousands of folks from across the country clean out their medicine cabinets and turn in - safely and anonymously - a record amount of prescription drugs.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs.

Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet.

In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

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