# 2023 Thanksgiving *If You Feel Different, You Drive Different.*

### FACT SHEET & TALKING POINTS

This Thanksgiving holiday weekend, the U.S. Department of Transportation’s National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is teaming up with **[State/Local Organization]** to keep vehicle drivers and passengers safe from drug-impaired drivers. Many may find the long Thanksgiving holiday weekend to be a convenient time to indulge in drug use. It is vital to remember that whether the drug is legal or illegal, drug-impaired driving poses a threat to the driver, passengers, and other road users. Read the information below and help us spread this lifesaving message: *If You Feel Different, You Drive Different.*

 **Know the Facts**

* If you’re planning to use marijuana or any impairing drug, do not drive. Designate a sober driver who won’t be using any drugs or call a ridesharing service or taxi. Someone who’s high shouldn’t be making decisions about driving; that’s why planning ahead is key.
* It doesn’t matter what term you use — high, stoned, or wasted — never get behind the wheel after using an impairing substance.
* In every U.S. state and territory, it is illegal to drive under the influence of drugs — no exceptions.
* Whether the drug is legally obtained or not, drug-impaired driving poses a threat to everyone on the road.
* If you think driving while high from marijuana won’t affect you, you are wrong: It has been shown that marijuana can slow reaction times, impair cognitive performance, and make it more difficult for drivers to keep a steady position in their lane.
* **[Local statistic if available.]**

 **Only Drive Sober**

* If you are planning to use drugs, plan ahead for a sober driver to safely drive you to your destination. Like drunk driving, it is essential that drug-impaired drivers refrain from driving a vehicle. It is never okay to drive while impaired by any substance —regardless of whether it was legally obtained.
* If you have used an impairing substance such as marijuana, do not drive. Passengers should never ride with an impaired driver. If you think a driver may be impaired, do not get in the car.
* Do you have a friend who is about to drive while impaired by drugs? Take the keys away and arrange to get them home safely. Don’t worry about offending someone — they’ll thank you later. And you might just save a life.
* If available, use your community’s sober ride program **[Insert your local sober ride program specifics here].**
* If you see an impaired driver on the road, contact **[Local Law Enforcement].**

For more information, visit [www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/drug-impaired-driving/if-you-feel-different-you-drive-different](https://www.trafficsafetymarketing.gov/get-materials/drug-impaired-driving/if-you-feel-different-you-drive-different).