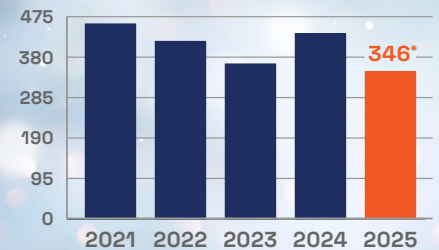


He Sees You When You're Driving...

What if Santa Claus could watch you drive? Would you end up on the “nice” list? Or would unsafe practices like not wearing a seat belt, speeding, or not following Minnesota’s hands-free cellphone law land you on the “naughty” list?

In this month’s [blog](#), Lisa Kons puts on her Santa hat, makes her own traffic safety “naughty” and “nice” lists, and checks them twice. She reminds us about the holiday season challenges ahead as travelers — some of them also revelers — hit the road in wintry weather. If you’re looking for traffic safety-related holiday gifts, you’ll find them in this issue. Numerous educational and marketing campaigns are underway in December to provide the gift of learning — something you can’t return! You’ll also find links to vehicle safety items you can actually wrap and gift to co-workers, family and friends. Happy Holidays!

MINNESOTA TRAFFIC FATALITIES January 1 – November 30



Source: MN Dept. of Public Safety

*Preliminary

Cannabis and Traffic Safety

While traditionally the focus in Minnesota has been on alcohol-impaired driving, with the advent of legalized cannabis in our state, traffic safety educators, law enforcement, and others are in learning mode. Join Minnesota Toward Zero Deaths (TZD) for their Hotdish Program.

DEC. 11 HOTDISH:

[Cannabis Education and Prevention Efforts in Traffic Safety | 1 p.m.](#)



This webinar is free to attend but registration is required. The Minnesota Department of Health will introduce their new “Be Cannabis Aware” campaign, sharing resources available, previewing what’s next, and highlighting key opportunities for partner involvement. Experts will also share statewide cannabis education and prevention efforts. Learn how to integrate these vital initiatives into your work to help keep our roads safe.

Honoring Victims of Traffic Crashes

Minnesota marked **World Day of Remembrance at the State Capitol on Saturday, November 15, 2025**. Candles flickered in honor of the people lost this year in traffic-related crashes across the state — each light representing a life cut short. Crash survivors, safety leaders, family members, law enforcement, and others impacted by crash deaths and injuries gathered in the Capitol Rotunda. World Day of Remembrance is a global event focusing on remembering victims and reducing crashes worldwide. The 6th annual event received Twin Cities [media coverage](#).





Wrap Up Safety This Holiday Season!

Whether it's something special under the tree, or hands-on traffic safety activities at your organization's holiday party, we've got what you need this season! Having a fully loaded roadside emergency supply kit in your trunk is essential for safety. The Minnesota Safety Council has a ready-to-wrap [Vehicle Emergency Kit](#) and a [Winter Emergency Kit](#) available for order in time for the holidays. And if you're looking for party activities that will be both fun and educational, check out Drive Safe MN for these [Interactive Tools](#) available for loan:

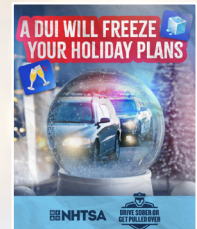
- **Distract-A-Match:** Two rounds of matching are played, while being timed. One without distraction and one while texting.
- **Distracted Driving Activity Mat:** This mat has graphics depicting a rural town setting. Participants take their first spin around distraction free and the second time with their cell phone in one hand while texting.
- **Driving Simulator:** This device simulates driving with multiple distractions including cell phone ringing, text messages arriving and children or pets running into the street as the user "drives" along city streets and highways. Indoor use only.
- **Pedal Cars with Fatal Vision Goggles:** Get a realistic driving experience while wearing fatal vision impairment goggles. Participants pedal the car and navigate through the cones.
- **Bean Bag Toss with/without Fatal Vision Goggles:** Demonstrate the effects of impairment, such as depth perception, coordination and balance while attempting to toss bean bags while wearing goggles.



The Perfect Gift: Driving Sober

The holiday period between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day — with Christmas, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah and other events in between — means parties with family, friends and co-workers can often result in impaired drivers getting behind the wheel.

During the 2019 – 2023 December months, 4,931 people were killed in alcohol-impaired-driving crashes. NHTSA has holiday-ready campaigns that emphasize the dangers and consequences of drunk driving and drug-impaired driving:



- ❄️ [Buzzed Driving is Drunk Driving](#)
- ❄️ [Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over](#)
- ❄️ [If You Feel Different, You Drive Different](#)

Get the Facts: Winter Driving

Looking for a little extra to add to your holiday gift? Try a Drive Safe MN winter safety fact sheet! These two seasonal favorites are just right for your drivers and outdoor enthusiasts:

- ❄️ [Snowmobile Safety](#)
- ❄️ [Winter Driving Challenges](#)



**NETWORK OF
EMPLOYERS FOR
TRAFFIC SAFETY**
MINNESOTA

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MN NETS is a partnership with the MN Safety Council, funded by the MN Department of Public Safety/Office of Traffic Safety.