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Dexter PD Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Enforcement Results

SEPTEMBER 05TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Dexter PD Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over Enforcement Results

Dexter Police Department's August/Labor Day Crackdown DWI Enforcement Crackdown 'Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over' Enforcement Results.

Dexter Police Department reported that 1 felony arrests was made and 36 citations were issued during the enforcement period, which ran from August 18 - September 3, 2017.

Preliminary data shows in 2016, there were 218 fatalities and 664 serious injuries that involved at least one substance-impaired driver. That equates to one substance-impaired driving fatality every 1-3/4 days.

During the holiday August 19 – September 5, 2016, 16 people were killed and 34 seriously injured which involved at least one substance-impaired driver.

Dexter Police joined forces with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and nearly 10,000 law enforcement agencies across the country in this year's "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" campaign.

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Dexter PD to Participate in Labor Day Crackdown

AUGUST 17TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Dexter PD to Participate in Labor Day Crackdown

August/Labor Day Crackdown “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” (DSOGPO) Weekend Crackdown To Reduce Substance–Impaired Driving Fatalities

Dexter, Missouri - Local police will be out in full force as part of the annual nationwide August/Labor Day Crackdown weekend "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" substance-impaired driving crackdown. The crackdown, which will include high-visibility enforcement throughout Dexter, will run from August 18 - September 3, 2017.

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 over the August/Labor Day weekend holiday.

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 too much alcohol. 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 Chief Stone. "Preliminary data indicates in 2016, 218 people were killed and 664 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 1-3/4 days and one substance-impaired driving serious injury every ½ day.

Chief Stone added the August/Labor Day Weekend holiday is particularly dangerous. During the August/Labor Day weekend holiday August 19 – September 5, 2016, 16 people were killed and 34 seriously injured involving at least one substance-impaired driver.

"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 Dexter’s roadways safer for everyone throughout the holiday," said Chief Stone.

"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,**" Chief Stone said.

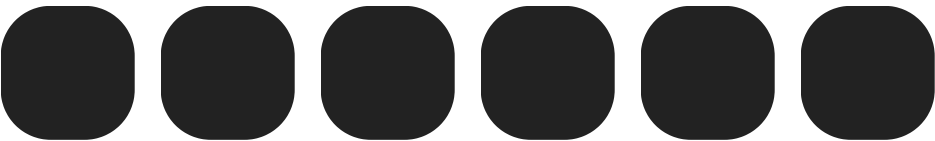
Chief Stone noted that being arrested for driving under the influence of any substance brings a wide range of negative consequences into one’s life. Substance-impaired drivers face jail time, loss of their driver licenses, and steep financial consequences such as higher insurance rates, attorney fees, court costs, lost time at work, and the potential loss of 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 Chief Stone.

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DPR Takes Action Against Disrespectful Behavior and Profanity

AUGUST 14TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

DPR Takes Action Against Disrespectful Behavior and Profanity

Dexter, Missouri - A walk in the park is more than just a nice way to spend an afternoon. It is essential component for great health! Dexter Parks and Recreation has recently had some challenges at one of their heavily utilized parks and are now taking a stand against disrespectful behavior and profanity.

After receiving complaints of profanity and disrespect with many of the incidents involved groups of congregating teens and young adults on the basketball courts, city leaders got involved. The park in question is West Park. It is located on Business Highway 60 just across from the Stoddard County Ambulance District.

West park is very popular, especially with families and young children. Over the past few months, Dexter Police Dept. has been called due to teenagers or young adults acting disorderly. Things kept getting worse. More trash was left on the ground and on the tables in the pavilions. DPR employees were having to go and spend extra time at the park to clean it up so people could enjoy their surroundings without looking at someone's litter. The pavilion was even vandalized.

More complaints were steadily streaming into the office over the next few months to the point that DPR employees were sitting at the park observing basketball games and people

using the park. Local residents began calling and letting the Dexter Parks know they would not be bringing their children back and that's when the Parks Dept. asked the police to step up patrols.

One of the goals of DPR is to try and prohibit conduct in the park before it reaches the level of a fight.

"Tempers flare, fights start and then some innocent child is going to get hurt," stated Jamie Rowe, Dexter Parks and Recreation Director. "That's not what we want. We want a safe environment for everyone to enjoy."

However in August a fight did ensue and a person was injured. Something had to change!

On Wednesday, August 9th after a long discussion at their board meeting, the Dexter Parks and Recreation Department decided to take the basketball goals and backboards down at West Park.

This is a temporary solution and the goals will be returned; however there is no date and it won't be anytime soon. The local Dexter Juvenile Officer also suggested that if the goals were removed this would also send a message that their behavior will not be tolerated at the park.

"We want to keep this park a family oriented place for everyone to use, but it has to be maintained in a safe setting," commented Jamie Rowe, DPR Director.

Simple cursing in front of someone in public is protected speech; however if that cursing incites a fight or is directed at a person or persons then it becomes disrespectful and can be considered as threatening behavior.

"They think it's their right to freedom of speech," stated Dexter Police Chief, Sammy Stone. "What they're doing is harassing a lot of the other people who use this park. A lot of parents who use this park don't want their children to be exposed to this profanity,"

"The language is atrocious and we're not going to put up with it, and they were warned multiple times. It didn't do any good, so we took the basketball goals down." Rowe said.

"We want everyone to come and enjoy the park," commented Rowe. "That's the purpose of a park to be used for birthday parties, walking, playing basketball and utilize the playground equipment. We even added a tennis court and striped a pickle ball area. We just want people to feel safe and welcomed at the park."

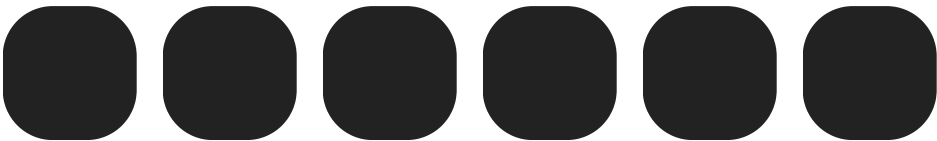
Some larger cities in Missouri and other states now have "no profanity" ordinances in their city parks. They give out tickets just like for littering, fighting, or vandalism.

"This is a sad situation because it costs the community and affects the families who could be enjoying the wonderful playground we have at West Park," commented a local walker who wished to remain anonymous. "I want to thank police for their hard work as well as the people in the community who are letting the parks people know about their behavior."

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Sales Tax Holiday is August 4th - 6th

Sales Tax Holiday is August 4th - 6th

Missouri - The annual Sales Tax Holiday is set for Friday, August 4th, Saturday, August 5th, and Sunday, August 6th in Stoddard County.

On these particular days certain back-to-school items such as clothing, school supplies, computers, and various other needed items are exempt from sales tax.

The sales tax holiday applies to state and local sales taxes when a local jurisdiction chooses to participate. However some local jurisdictions choose to not participate in the holiday.

If one or all of your local taxing jurisdictions are not participating in the sales tax holiday, the state's portion of the tax rate (4.255%) will remain exempt for the sale of qualifying sales tax holiday items.

The sales tax exemption is limited to:

1. Clothing - any article having a taxable value of less than \$100. (a fur coat valued at \$250 would not fit in this category)
2. School supplies - not to exceed \$50 per purchase (if you are buying for three children, you might want to get your spouse to go through the line or come back more than one time to get your items)
3. Computer software - taxable value of \$350 or less.
4. Personal computers - not to exceed \$1,500.
5. Computer peripheral devices - not to exceed \$1,500.
6. Graphing Calculators - not to exceed \$150.

Please note:

Clothing is defined as any article of wearing apparel, including footwear, intended to be worn on or about the human body. That does not include watches, watchbands, jewelry, handbags, handkerchiefs, umbrellas, scarves, ties, headbands, or belt buckles.

School supplies are defined as any item normally used by students in a standard classroom for education purposes, including but not limited to, textbooks, notebooks, paper, writing instruments, crayons, art supplies, rulers, book bags, backpacks, handheld

calculators, chalk, maps, and globes. The term shall NOT include watches, radios, CD Players, headphones, sporting equipment, portable or desktop telephones, copiers or other office equipment, furniture, or fixtures.

Link to cities NOT participating; therefore you will pay the city sales tax! **Click HERE.**

Link to counties NOT participating; therefore you will pay the county sales tax! **Click HERE.** Stoddard is NOT participating.

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Dexter PD 4th of July Crackdown Results

JULY 05TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

Dexter PD 4th of July Crackdown Results

Dexter Police Department's Fourth (4th) of July Holiday DWI Enforcement Crackdown 'Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over' Enforcement Campaign results

Dexter Police issued 36 citations during the enforcement period, which ran from June 30-July 4, 2017. The following are the summons' issued; 1 traffic control device violation, 11 speeding violations, 3 seatbelt violations and 3 uninsured motorists. There were also 45 written/verbal warnings issued to 54 motorists stopped during this campaign.

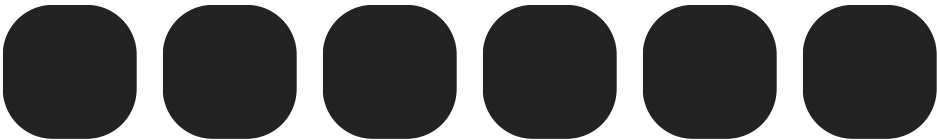
In 2016, there were 233 fatalities and 700 serious injuries that involved at least one substance-impaired driver. That equates to one substance-impaired driving fatality every 1-3/4 days. During the July 1-4, 2016 holiday period, two (2) people were killed and ten (10) seriously injured in crashes involving at least one substance-impaired driver.

For more information, visit the "Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over" Campaign headquarters at www.TrafficSafetyMarketing.gov, or www.saveMOlives.com.

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