

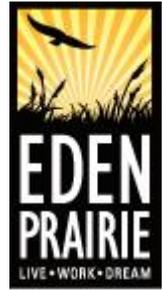
NEWS RELEASE

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EDEN PRAIRIE AND BLOOMINGTON POLICE CRACK DOWN ON SAFE DRIVING LAWS

53 Drivers Arrested for Driving While Intoxicated and 66 Drivers Receive Seatbelt Citations in End-of-Summer Enforcement Effort

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Police officers from Eden Prairie and Bloomington arrested 79 impaired drivers and issued 66 seatbelt citations during an end-of-summer heightened enforcement period. More than 400 agencies participated in the state-wide effort, led by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS).

“Impaired driving continues to be a serious issue in our community,” said Pete Vosbeek, sergeant for the Eden Prairie Police Department. “Eden Prairie and Bloomington Police are committed to keeping area motorists safe by taking impaired drivers off our roads.”

During 2006–2008, 519 motorists were killed and another 1,159 motorists were seriously injured in alcohol-related crashes statewide. During that same time period 116,515 motorists were arrested for driving while impaired — 35,736 in 2008.

The enforcement and education effort is funded by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and is a component of the state’s *Toward Zero Deaths* traffic safety program. *TZD* is an interdisciplinary approach to address traffic issues regionally through enforcement, education, engineering and emergency trauma care.

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