



Zero fatalities. Zero excuses.

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For more information: NDDOT Safety Public Information Program Manager, 701-328-2598 or law enforcement contact information provided upon request.

Drug Recognition Experts: *Driving High Is Impaired Driving - Even on 4/20*

Grand Forks, ND- Driving under the influence of cannabis or other mind-altering substances is dangerous and illegal. April 20 (4/20) is a popular day among marijuana users to get high. While there are many theories as to why 4/20 has become a counterculture celebration, Drug Recognition Experts (DREs) agree: don't drive high.

The perception that marijuana will not adversely affect your driving ability is a myth. It has been proven that Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) in marijuana slows reaction times, impairs cognitive performance and makes it more difficult for drivers to keep a steady position in their lane. It's important to remember if you feel different, you drive different. Driving while impaired by any substance is illegal and can be deadly to the driver, passengers and other road users.

DREs warn if you choose to drive under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, law enforcement will remove you from the road.

"On 4/20, there are larger than normal incidences of people ingesting marijuana and many of these people will get behind the wheel of a vehicle. Operating a vehicle requires maximum attention to focus on all the tasks associated with driving," said Ryan Wadlow from the Grand Forks Police Department. "Ingesting marijuana largely impacts your ability to safely operate that vehicle on a roadway. It's very reckless to get behind the wheel while under the influence of marijuana."

Learn more about the Vision Zero strategy and its traffic safety campaigns at [VisionZero.ND.gov](https://www.visionzero.nd.gov).

Visit the [North Dakota Crash Memorial Wall](#) to view memorials built on the hope of preventing another death on North Dakota roads.

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