

# Drug Free Adams County

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**Drug Free**



**Adams County**  
*Rays of Hope for a Better Tomorrow*

## Beware of Drug-Impaired Driving

You've likely heard all about the dangers of drunk driving, but are you familiar with the dangers of drugged driving? Driving under the influence of over-the-counter medications, prescription drugs, marijuana, or any other mind-altering drugs makes it unsafe to operate a vehicle. Unfortunately, research indicates drug prevalence is on the rise among drivers.

### How Common Is It?

In 2020, 12.6 million people (ages 16 and older) reportedly drove after using illicit drugs. Of that total, 11.7 million people were under the influence of marijuana. In another recent survey, 22% of teens admitted that driving while high on marijuana is common among their friends.

### Effects of Drugs on Drivers

Marijuana slows reaction time, impairs a driver's concentration and attention, and reduces hand-eye coordination. Impaired driving can also occur after using prescription drugs or over-the-counter medicine such as cough suppressants, antihistamines, sleeping aids, and anti-anxiety medications. In some cases, even small amounts of these substances may impair driving abilities by altering perception, mental processes, attention, balance, coordination, and other abilities required for safe driving.



Vehicle accidents are the leading cause of death among people aged 16 to 19.

**PARENTS** – warn your teens not to drive after using marijuana or other drugs, and to not get in a car with a driver who has used marijuana or other drugs. Help protect your children and community this holiday season by keeping all impaired drivers off the roads.