

Rx for Safe Driving:

Medications and driving don't always mix.

When it comes to drinking alcohol and driving, most people are pretty clear: you don't do it. But what about when you've taken some painkillers, or a cold remedy? What about the medications prescribed by your doctor?

Prescription medications have made aging, and the health conditions that accompany the process, much easier to manage. Unfortunately, these medications and driving don't always mix. Many medications can cause drowsiness, sap energy and slow reaction time.

An additional factor can be a dangerous drug interaction. Many times, older people see more than one doctor, each who may prescribe a different type of medication. When taken together, some drugs can multiply impairment and make it extremely risky to operate a vehicle.

What you need to know:

Not all medications affect your driving, but quite a few do. Some medications can also interact with alcohol, making drinking and driving more dangerous, even if you have had less to drink than the legal alcohol limit. **The types of drugs most likely to increase the risk of a car crash are:**

- treatments for diabetes that lower your blood sugar,
- treatments for epilepsy or Parkinson disease,
- calming drugs such as tranquilizers, stimulants, antidepressants, and
- drugs that affect the nervous system, such as strong painkillers, antipsychotics, & beta-blockers.

What you need to do:

Read the fine print. If a medication you're taking is labeled "Do not use while operating heavy machinery," let someone else drive. **If any medication makes you feel sleepy or disoriented, don't drive.**

Also remember to:

- Inform your doctor about any non-prescription medications you are taking. This includes alcohol, which can interact with some drugs and cause serious side effects.
- Discuss your medications and their effects with your doctor or pharmacist.
- Always check with your doctor before stopping any medication.



www.bcstopdwi.com





It is illegal to park in the access aisle or striped area next to reserved parking spaces. This special area is needed for access by people who use wheelchairs and specially-equipped vehicles.



What Everyone Needs to Know About *Handicapped Parking*.

Reserved parking for people with disabilities ensures safe and equal access to goods and services. Reserved parking for people with disabilities is a legal requirement, not just a courtesy. Show you care by respecting the law. Please be parking considerate and only park in reserved parking spaces if you have a permit or plate.

Misuse of Parking Permits or Plates

It is a serious misuse of license plates and permits for the disabled when someone other than the person with a disability uses the plates or permits to park in a reserved space for people with disabilities. The license plate or parking permit is valid only when the person with a disability who received the plate or permit is in the vehicle.

If you misuse the plate or parking permit or allow someone else to use them, the Department of Motor Vehicles may revoke the license plate of the misuser. The locality that issues the permit may revoke the permit or they may deny the renewal and issue a ticket.

Remember, a plate and permit do not allow you to disobey state or local parking regulations. They also do not exempt you from parking fees.

Avoid costly fines and save handicapped parking spots for those who really need them. Respect the Law and Respect Our Community. Be Parking Considerate.

If someone is parked in a reserved parking spot without a permit or plate, you may call law enforcement at one of the following non-emergency numbers and if an officer is available and in the area, they can respond.



NON- EMERGENCY NUMBERS:		
Binghamton Police Department		(607) 723-5321
Broome County Sheriff's Office		(607) 778-1911
Deposit Police Department		(607) 467-2115
Endicott Police Department		(607) 785-3341
Johnson City Police Department		(607) 729-9321
Port Dickinson Police Department		(607) 722-1255
Vestal Police Department		(607) 754-2111
New York State Police -- Troop C Zone 2		
	Binghamton Station	(607) 775-1241
	Deposit Station	(607) 467-3215
	Endwell Station	(607) 754-3854
	Whitney Point Station	(607) 775-1241
	Gateway Station	(607) 775-5635