



# SADD Campaigns and Activities: Safe Summer

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## Keep It a Safe Summer

Classes will soon be over. There will be no more homework, just lots of free time to enjoy the summer. Right? Not a chance if you're a member of your school's SADD chapter. Summertime means SADD chapters work overtime. Recent statistics indicate that a very high number of youth fatalities occurs during the summer months of June, July and August.

Contrary to the movie *Death Takes a Holiday*, death does not take holidays. In fact, it rears its ugly head often during the summer months. For this reason, SADD chapters must double their efforts in summer.

Without the hassles of school, homework and athletic commitments, summertime provides SADD chapters a unique opportunity to do new and exciting things that they don't have time to do during the school year. The following are some activities you can consider, but use your imagination to develop others.

Work with your community to provide a variety of fun activities for teens so they don't resort to dangerous and destructive behavior because they have nothing else to do.

Sponsor a float in your 4th of July or Labor Day parade. If your community has a holiday celebration, you may want to choose to display a crashed car to point out the dangers of underage drinking, impaired driving and aggressive driving. Be sure that the crashed car does not have any history or significance in your community.

Plan an outdoor dance under the stars at a local tennis or basketball court or even a parking lot at school.

Host an old fashioned field day with sack races, three legged races, egg throws, toilet paper wraps and other fun activities. Ask local pizza restaurants to donate pizza and soda for the event.

Visit local liquor stores and convenience stores and ask them to be diligent about checking IDs and not selling to anyone under the age of 21.

Every school has a number of musical groups. Why not have a "Battle of the Bands" or a music fest where each group has a chance to perform? You could sell refreshments to raise funds for your SADD chapter.

Plan a fun walk/run with a picnic or barbeque at the finish. You could even have a DJ. Ask a local civic organization such as Rotary, Lions Club, or Elks to provide food and beverages.

Ask your local recreation center to sponsor a pool party for young adults with music, food and dancing.

Consider having a talent show. It could be talent-specific, such as a country music contest, or open to all kinds of talent.



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Ask your local radio stations to broadcast public service announcements. A free CD with PSAs is available from the SADD National Office, or you may develop your own.

Don't forget the importance of "buckling up." Hold a Buckle Up for Safety Day at your local beach. Conduct the Quick Click Buckle Challenge, encouraging everyone to compete. Award prizes. Invite the media and distribute literature on the importance of air bags, safety seats and seat belts. If we could get every teen to buckle up, we would save hundreds of lives!

Urge establishments that serve liquor to be alert for customers who have had too much to drink and to assist them in getting home without driving.

Design and distribute table tents to local restaurants, pubs and other eating establishments to remind customers it is illegal to drink under the age of 21 and not to mix drinking with other activities such as biking, swimming, and boating.

Your SADD chapter will have great fun making this a safe summer in your community!