

The cold facts...

- Alcohol can impair your perceptions and slow your reaction time.
- Snowmobilers who have been drinking alcohol often drive too fast and outside their ability.
- Alcohol can cause you to lose body heat and puts you at risk of hypothermia.
- Hypothermia is a potentially life threatening condition in which the body temperature drops below 96°.
- Alcohol does not help to keep you warm. Alcohol changes the way your blood flows around your body. It makes the blood vessels on the surface of your skin wider. Your body will lose heat faster and this gives you a false sense of being warmer.



The facts about alcohol and snowmobiling...



1. They don't mix.
2. They don't mix.
3. They don't mix.

Alcohol, snowmobiling and the legal facts...

- The Criminal Code of Canada makes it a crime to operate any motorized vehicle, including a snowmobile, while being impaired.
- Under the Ontario Highway Traffic Act, if you are convicted of driving a snowmobile with a blood alcohol concentration above .08%, your licence to drive any vehicle, including your snowmobile, car or truck can be suspended for one year on a first offence.
- If a driver of a snowmobile fails or refuses an alcohol breath test, the operator's driver's licence may be suspended immediately for a 90 day period (Ministry of Transportation, 1996). This could mean parking your snowmobile for the remainder of the season.

Source: *Guiding Your Way Through an Alcohol Policy: Blazing New Trails*, 1997.

Some sobering facts...

In Ontario:

- In 2002 - 2003, 32 people died in snowmobile crashes. 37% were alcohol related.
- In 2000 - 2001, 44 people died in snowmobile crashes. 43% were alcohol related.

Source: *OPP Snowmobile Injury Report, 2003*



Alcohol reduces your chance of survival if something should go wrong while riding!