

SAFETY CORNER

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DRUGS, DRINKING, & RIDING

We kid you not. Mixing alcohol and drugs and a motorcycle is like putting nitro with glycerine, there's a dangerous reaction.

Alcohol is a depressant. The first thing to go is your judgment, and good judgment is essential. Bad judgement gets you into trouble.

Drinking riders tend to run off the road more often and have a high percentage of rider error and use excessive speed for conditions around them. Those are the statistics and that spells trouble.

It takes a long time for the effects of alcohol to be cleared from your body. Roughly one hour for each bottle of beer, glass of wine, or shot of liquor. Nothing but time will shed that alcohol, not showers, coffee, or other so-called remedies.

Have a couple of beers if you wish, but have them at home. Then you don't have to go anywhere afterwards. If you are going to drink, don't even think about riding.

Alcohol is not the only drug that affects your ability to ride safely. Whether it is an over-the-counter, prescription, or illegal drug, it may have side-effects that increase the risks of riding. Even common cold medicines could make you drowsy-too drowsy to ride and mixing alcohol and drugs is even more dangerous than using either alone.

Motorcycling is a constant learning experience. Go forth and have a good time, don't do anything foolish and we will see you on the road.