

# Avoid the Risk Zone

The “Risk Zone” is a state of physical and mental fatigue that is a major cause of highway crash fatalities. Team leaders can heighten the awareness of drivers to this danger by reviewing the Driver’s Pledge and the checklist “Do All You Can to Keep Scouts Safe.”

Drivers who will transport youth in prejangboree campout activities as well as to and from the

jangboree site should not wait until they are in the car to think about avoiding the Risk Zone. The Driver’s Pledge is a commitment to planning ahead and avoiding killer fatigue. The checklist is a quick reminder of important safe-driving tips. Included on the checklist are eight mechanical conditions to check before heading out each day.

## Driver’s Pledge

- F I will not drive when I feel fatigued. I realize that when I am fatigued, I process information more slowly and less accurately, and this impairs my ability to react in time to avoid accidents.
- F I will arrange my schedule so that several days before driving to the prejangboree campout or to or from the jangboree site, I will get a good night’s sleep every night to avoid the cumulative effect of not getting enough sleep.
- F I will make trip preparations far enough in advance so that last-minute preparations don’t interfere with my rest.
- F I will make travel plans that take into account my personal biological clock and only drive during the part of the day when I know I will be alert.
- F I will pace myself if I am a designated driver. I will be smart about engaging in physical activities during the prejangboree and jangboree activities and will make sure that I will be ready to drive alert.

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# **T H E RISK ZONE**

## **Do All You Can to Keep Scouts Safe** Transporting Scouts Safely

- Always use seatbelts.**
- Turn your headlights on for safety.**
- Don't drive fatigued.**
- Load/hitch/tow trailers correctly.**
- Avoid night driving.**

### **CHECK FOR GOOD MECHANICAL CONDITION**

**TIRES**

**BRAKES**

**WINDSHIELD WIPERS**

**ALL LIGHTS**

**NO FLUID LEAKS**

**HORN**

**TURN SIGNALS**

**CLEAN WINDSHIELDS AND WINDOWS**