

February 20, 2019

To: Members of the Tavern Owners Association

From: Tom Fountaine, State College Borough Manager

Damon Sims, Penn State Vice President for Student Affairs



Re: State Patty's Day

For more than a decade, the weekend after the success of THON has brought the mayhem of State Patty's Day to State College and University Park. The Borough, the University administration, local businesses and services, State agencies, and student leaders have joined together to minimize the harmful aspects of this unfortunate drinking event. And while our success has varied across the years, our shared commitment to safety and welfare in our community has never changed.

We ask again this year that you join us in doing what you can to impede the negative excesses that State Patty's Day encourages. Although we typically celebrate the arrival of out of town visitors in our community, we want to discourage those who visit us specifically for the recklessness of State Patty's Day and do harm to our community and themselves in the process.

By avoiding a Mardi Gras atmosphere in town, we might discourage the most problematic behaviors seen in years past. We also might lesson the likelihood that the visitors coming to town for the wrong reasons will return for this event in years to come.

The fraternities in the Borough have agreed to forego socials this weekend, and student leaders in the residence halls have decided to limit visitors to one per room. Area law enforcement agencies are ramping up mobilization for the weekend, and Liquor Control Enforcement will be evident, too. We have asked local landlords to help in ways they can, and now we come to you for your assistance.

Many of your establishments have limited hours of operation, drink specials, and themed promotions and decorations during past State Patty's Days. We hope you might do so again this year. Only by working together, with all of us contributing in the ways we can, will we overcome the deeply troubling outcomes State Patty's Day can produce.

Many thanks for your past and continuing support.