

TEEN PARTIES AND THE LAW: A PARENT'S GUIDE TO RESPONSIBLE HOSTING

AS A COMMUNITY, WE ALL DEPEND ON EACH OTHER.

Providing a safe, alcohol-free environment for kids is a responsibility all parents can share. A majority of teens living in Middlesex County report that their parents are the biggest influence on their decisions about drinking. Social Hosting sets the wrong example for the kids in our community.

BEFORE THE PARTY:

- Ground rules before the party: state your expectations.
- Parent(s) should be home and visible during the party.
- Invite other parents to attend and help.
- If another parent calls to inquire about the party, invite them to stop in to say hello or phone their child at any time to verify attendance during the party.
- Create a guest list together and stick to it. No "party crashers".
- Limit attendance and the hours of the party.
- Make it clear to your teen that you will be outside checking cars. Do not allow guests to tailgate.
- Notify the neighbors of any large party planned.
- Let your child know that should a serious problem develop, you will call the police if necessary.

DURING THE PARTY

- Greet every guest at the door. Say goodbye when they leave. Get to know your child's friends.
- Never offer an alcoholic beverage to a person under 21.
- Anyone who attempts to bring alcohol should be asked to leave and have their parents notified.
- Notify the parent of any teen who arrives drunk or under the influence of any drug; if intoxicated, don't let them leave without a parent.
- Check any beverage container brought in by a guest. Open and smell it.
- Be alert for the smell of alcohol on the breath or on clothing as teens arrive. Be observant. Look into their eyes. Watch the way they walk. Listen to their speech.

A COMMUNITY INITIATIVE FOR RESPONSIBLE HOSTING



A FEW MORE IDEAS:

- If you are not hosting the party at your house, know where it is being held.
- Call to verify the event, the hours and if adult supervision will be provided.
- Volunteer to help out.
- Ask if alcohol will be served. If they say yes, remind the adult that serving to minors is illegal, and don't let your child go.
- Be aware of how and by whom your child will be transported to and from the party.
- Call the host during the party to verify your child's attendance.
- Set a time at which you expect your child to be home.
- Be awake when your child returns home from the party.

**YOUR HOUSE. YOUR RULES.
YOUR REPUTATION.**



Middlesex County Substance Abuse Action Council
860-347-5959, info@mcsaac.org | www.mcsaac.org

PREVENT SOCIAL HOSTING.

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL PREVENTION COUNCIL:

Clinton First Selectman's Task Force on Substance Abuse

Barbara Small: bsmall@clintonct.org or Kristin Brooks: kbrooks@clintonct.org
clintontaskforce@gmail.com

Cromwell Prevention and Awareness Council

Vivian MacAlpine: (860) 632-4841, x. 24911, vmacapline@cromwell.k12.ct.us
or Henry Speno: (860) 632-4841, x. 14700, hspeno@cromwell.k12.ct.us

Durham-Middlefield Local Wellness Council

Betsy Dean: 860.349.0258, bdean.dmyfs@comcast.net

East Haddam Local Prevention Council

Toni McCabe: (860) 873-3296, toni.mccabe@prodigy.net

East Hampton Local Prevention Council

Cindi Coutu: (860) 267-1371, cindi.coutu@snet.net

Haddam-Killingworth Healthy Kids-Healthy Communities

Cheryl Chandler: (860) 345-7948, cheryl@hkyfs.org
or Kate Glendon: (860) 345-7948, KGlendon@hkyfs.org
www.hkyfs.org/programs/preventioncouncil

Middletown Substance Abuse Prevention Council

Justin Carbonella: (860) 347-8594, carbonellaj@mpsl.org
or Felicia Goodwine-Vaughters: (860) 852-1080, fvaught@rushford.org
www.middletownschoools.org/page.cfm?p=7525

Portland Local Prevention Council

Mary Pont: (860) 342-6758, mpont@portland.org

Old Saybrook Local Prevention Council

Heather McNeil: (860) 395-3190, hmcneil@town.old-saybrook.ct.us

Tri-Town Substance Abuse Prevention Council serving Chester - Deep River - Essex

Gail Onofrio, (860) 526-3600, ttysb@aol.com or Ali Siemianowski,
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Westbrook Local Prevention Council

Rich Annino: (860) 399-3095, rannino@westbrookct.us
or Sharon Lessard: (860) 399-2029, slessard@westbrookct.us



SOCIAL HOSTING IS AGAINST THE LAW.

It's also against the better judgement of most of our community.

If underage drinking takes place on your property, you will be held legally responsible for what happens at or after the party, even if you didn't buy the alcohol.

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