

**PARENTS...
TEENAGERS...
PARTIES... & THE LAW...**

**F.Y.I
FACT
SHEET**

FOR PARENTS: HELPFUL HINTS!

IF YOUR TEENAGER WANTS TO GO TO A PARTY

- KNOW WHERE your teenager will be, and with whom; Get the address and phone number.
- CONTACT THE PARENTS of the party giver; Confirm the details of the party; Make sure the parents will be present and that no alcohol/other drugs will be permitted.
- AGREE beforehand on expectations for behavior and curfew.
- If your teenager stays overnight with a friend after the party, CONTACT THE FRIEND'S PARENT(S) to confirm the plan.
- URGE your teen to never ride home with a driver who is under the influence of alcohol or other drugs. You might have an understanding that there will be no punishments or restrictions for a call asking you for a ride home, or letting you know that things have gotten out of hand and your assistance may be needed.
- BE UP TO GREET your teenager when he/she comes home from a party.

IF YOUR TEENAGER WANTS TO GIVE A PARTY

- Before giving permission, WORK OUT THE DETAILS with your teen and have a clear, mutual understanding of the guidelines for the party.
- WORK WITH your teen. Check out party plans.
- LIMIT the number of party guests; and know the guest list.
- Be sure the party is "BY INVITATION ONLY."
- Establish RULES for the party. Suggestions include: Gatecrashers will not be allowed; no alcohol or other drugs will be permitted; guests who leave the party will not be allowed to return; some rooms in the house are off-limits; lights left on; etc.
- MAKE A PLAN for handling unwanted guests.
- DISCUSS ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR and consequences for unacceptable behavior.
- SET A TIME LIMIT: A definite starting and ending time.
- PLAN SOME ACTIVITIES in advance: dancing, movies, games, etc.
- NOTIFY NEIGHBORS that a party is being given and that it will be SUPERVISED.
- BE VISIBLE at the party, and know what is going on.
- INVITE ANOTHER PARENT OR COUPLE as company for you during the evening and to help if there are any problems. When parents deliver their teens to your house, invite them in to get acquainted, even if only briefly.

**TO ENCOURAGE YOUR TEEN TO BE RESPONSIBLE, RECOGNIZE POSITIVE BEHAVIOR.
"Catch 'em Being Good"**

BECOME INVOLVED WITH YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP OR PTA!

**Join the Wayne PROUD, Schuyler CAAST, the Seneca Drug Abuse Task Force,
or the Partnership for Ontario County.**

**For more information, contact the
Council on Alcoholism of the Finger Lakes, 620 W. Washington St., Geneva (315) 789-0310
or visit us at: www.councilonalcoholism.net**

THE LAW: FOR PARENTS AND TEENS

REMEMBER: IT IS ILLEGAL TO SERVE ALCOHOL TO ANYONE UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE.

The Law states that, “a person must be 21 years old to buy alcoholic beverages in bars, taverns, restaurants, clubs, or liquor stores and supermarkets. It is also illegal for any person over or under the age of 21, to buy alcoholic beverages for - or give them to, anyone under 21 (except their own child or other limited circumstance). In addition, the Alcohol Beverage Control Law (ABC) under section 65.C makes it illegal for those under 21 to possess alcohol with the intent to consume it.”

MAY A PARENT SERVE ALCOHOL TO TEENS AND THEIR FRIENDS AT PARENT SUPERVISED PARTIES?

NO! The Law applies to all situations in which an underage person is served alcohol by anyone but his/her parents. A parent serving the young friends alcohol would be committing a Class A Misdemeanor under Penal Law Section 260.20 (maximum up to a year in jail and \$1,000 fine), which allows a parent or guardian to furnish liquor or beer to their own child only. The Social Host Law also applies, exposing the parent to Civil Liability for ANY INJURY OR RESULTING DAMAGE caused by the minor as a result of intoxication. **This is true whether or not the parent is home at the time.**

Remember - getting a “Designated Driver” is a campaign designed to decrease fatalities among youthful drivers. It was not designed to be a low risk drinking choice.

WHAT COULD HAPPEN TO AN UNDERAGE PERSON WHO GETS CAUGHT DRINKING, PURCHASING, OR POSSESSING ALCOHOL?

- 1) Possession of an alcoholic beverage with intent to consume, by persons under the age of 21 is prohibited. Under the Alcohol Beverage Control Law - Section 65c the Court may impose a fine of up to \$50.00 dollars and/or require up to 30 hours of community service. The Police officer may seize the beverage.
- 2) Any person who presents a false identification to purchase alcoholic beverages can receive a fine up to \$100.00 dollars and/or 30 hours of community service. In addition, there can be a 90 day suspension of the driver’s license of anyone who has used it illegally to purchase or attempt to purchase alcoholic beverages.
- 3) Regarding Altered Identification: a person is GUILTY OF FORGERY, when, with intent to defraud or deceive another, he or she falsely makes, completes or alters an official instrument (i.e., altering a license or official identification). **This kind of forgery can be a Class D Felony under Penal Law 170.25 - criminal possession of a forged instrument (maximum up to seven years in state prison).**

DRUG TIP HOTLINES

Everyone has to take action to stop drug use/abuse, and that means taking a Zero-Tolerance position.

We know drinking and driving kills, and most people will readily call in a DWI to the Police to help avoid a tragedy. Drugs Kill too, and we all need to do everything possible to stop the killing! Know Who’s Making Money Selling Drugs??? Call Your Local Hotline - it’s Anonymous!

Ontario County: 315-396-3784

Schuyler County: 1-800-TIP-USOFF (ext 148)

Seneca County 1-800-GO-TO-JAIL

Yates County: 315-536-5111

Wayne County 1-800-836-0292