

Social Hosting Laws in Connecticut Have Changed.

This legislation potentially impacts the parents
of every teenage household in the state.



Don't be a party to
teenage drinking.

It's against the law.

Effective October 1, 2012 anyone of any age in "control over any dwelling unit or private property" can be liable if teens are caught drinking on the property.

The newly modified law expands liability from those who "knowingly permit" underage drinking to those who "recklessly or with criminal negligence permit" the drinking. This means, the person in control, i.e. liable:

- doesn't have to be present,
- doesn't have to be aware of the drinking
 - doesn't have to be an adult
- DOES have to attempt to stop any drinking

Learn the law and talk with your children
about their responsibilities and liabilities
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What is Social Hosting?

The "SOCIAL HOSTING" act prohibits providing and/or serving alcohol to a young person (other than your own child) who is under the minimum drinking age of 21. The Social Hosting act also requires that any person aware of possession of alcohol by a minor on property they own or are in control of must make reasonable efforts to halt such possession. It may also extend to parents and homeowners who are not on the premises and/or did not provide the alcohol.



The Consequences of Social Hosting

Providing and allowing minors (anyone under the age of 21) to drink or possess alcohol is against the law.

Violation of this law is a class A misdemeanor and penalties include (but are not limited to):

- Up to one year imprisonment
- A fine of up to \$2,000
- Minors may be fined and their driver's license suspended
- Homeowner's insurance may increase
- You may be held civilly liable for any resulting injuries or damage
- If any of the minors are under the age of 16, 'risk of injury' may be charged. This is a FELONY.

More Information

For more information on the Social Host Laws in Connecticut or underage drinking, please call Positive Directions at 203-227-7644 or visit any of these websites:

www.settherulesct.org

www.positivedirections.org

www.drugabuse.gov

www.toosmartostart.samsha.gov

This publication is sponsored by Fairfield Ludlowe & Warde PTA's; Fairfield Cares Community Coalition and Positive Directions.

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