



Fact Sheet

Underage Drinking Laws

Public awareness campaign

What parents should know:

Subject: Underage Drinking

Target audience: Parents of teens

Objective: Inform parents that:

- **It is illegal to host or allow teen drinking parties in your home.**
- **It is unhealthy for anyone under age 21 to drink.**
- **It is unsafe and illegal for teens to drink and drive.**
- **Parents can be prosecuted under the law.**

- As a parent, you cannot give alcohol to your teen's friends under the age of 21, under any circumstance, even in your own home, even with their parent's permission.
- You cannot knowingly allow a person under 21, other than your own child, to remain in your home or on your property while consuming or possessing alcohol.

If you break the law:

- You can face a maximum sentence of up to one year in jail and up to \$2,000 fine.
- If someone is injured or killed as a result of the alcohol you supplied, you could be charged with a **FELONY**.



You can be **SUED**. If you allow minors to consume alcohol in your home or camp, your homeowner's insurance policy may not provide adequate protection when serious injury occurs. You could be **HELD RESPONSIBLE** if injury occurs on or away from your premises (**EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT HOME**). You can **PREVENT TRAGEDIES** by stopping teenage drinking.

- Is your **ASSETS** (home, car, toys, life and retirement savings), your **FREEDOM** and your **REPUTATION** really worth with the **RISK**?

Things you can do as a parent:

- Refuse to supply alcohol to anyone under 21.
- Be at home when your teen has a party.
- Make sure that alcohol is not brought into your home or property by your teen's friends.
- Talk to other parents about not providing alcohol at other events your child will be attending.
- Create alcohol-free opportunities and activities in your home so teens feel welcome.
- Report underage drinking to your local law enforcement.

Project Unite!

Healthy Androscoggin
 207.795.5990 or www.healthyandroscoggin.org
 Drug-Free Community Support Program
 Maine Office of Substance Abuse, DHHS

"Parents Who Host, Lose the Most," was developed by and is a project of Drug-Free Action Alliance.