

HOMECOMING 2011

Come Home From Homecoming

Safe, Sober and Drug Free

Simple Things That Assure Safety

1. Know the Plans

- ❖ Who's driving- to and from- Think twice about allowing your under-classman child to travel and party with upper-classmen.
- ❖ Who's going- names and numbers- for children and parents.
- ❖ Where and when- dinner, dance and after party locations, sequence and contact info.
- ❖ Curfew- they really don't *need* to stay out all night or until all hours.
- ❖ Touch base- text or quick calls to confirm all is well. ❖ NO PLAN CHANGES without your involvement. ❖ Wait up to happily hear all the fun stories.

2. After-Party Safety

- ❖ NO ALCOHOL or other drugs.
- ❖ Location, supervision and time frames.
- ❖ If kids leave the party, they can't return.
- ❖ Food and beverages available are provided, not brought in.
- ❖ If more than one party invitation, have your child pick one and avoid "party hopping".
- ❖ Offer to help the hosts, or if you're hosting, ask for help.

3. General Safe Practice

- ❖ Keep garage doors closed- "Garaging" is a common means for bolder teens to access alcohol.
- ❖ Keep alcohol and medications safely locked out of sight to reduce temptations and access.

Provide a Safety Net

- ❖ Talk candidly with your child about balancing safety and fun. Ask about their expectations and concerns.
- ❖ Provide an "out" for your teen. Be available to "rescue" them from unsafe circumstances- provide the ride or money for taxi.
- ❖ Communicate/network with other parents to assure common expectations.
- ❖ Take stock of your alcohol and lock it up. Consider it "age appropriate cabinet latching".

Things to Know

- Revised MUP Statute: The Missouri Liquor Control Law (Chapter 311.325) states that if it can be shown that a minor has consumed alcohol, the minor can be charged with Minor in Possession (MIP). It is no longer necessary for possession of containers, open or otherwise, as a basis for arrest.
- Local Curfew Laws: Throughout West County, it is unlawful for anyone under the age of 17 to be in a public or unsupervised place between the hours of 11 PM and 6 AM Sunday-Thursday and 12 Midnight to 6 AM Friday-Saturday, unless accompanied by a parent or guardian.
- Social Hosting Liability: Three West County municipalities and the State of Missouri have laws that specifically prohibit adults allowing underage drinking on their property- wittingly or not. Between January 2009 and August 2010, 27 residents in the city of Wildwood were found in violation of that municipality's social hosting ordinance. The cities of Eureka and Clarkson Valley have similar ordinances.

party plans can be made to your local police departments at the following numbers:

- Ballwin 636-227-9636

700

- Ellisville 636-227-7777
- Eureka 636-938-6600
- Fenton 636-349-8120
- Wildwood 636-458-9194
- Winchester 314-615-0700



Chesterfield Alliance for Positive Youth

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