

PARTY TIME EXCEL LENT?

a guide
for responsible
party hosting

party

\pär-tē\ [pahr-tee] plural -ties, -noun
1. a social gathering, as of invited guests at a private home, for conversation, refreshments, entertainment, etc.

As a responsible host, there are many things to consider when planning a party in which alcohol may be involved...

- Start by reviewing your lease (if renting) for any restrictions that apply to your residence. If unsure of policies related to gatherings, ask for clarification.
- Does your property manager/landlord prohibit parties altogether? If so, a gathering at your place could lead to loss of your security deposit and even eviction.
- Know the laws as they apply to you. It is against the law to provide alcohol to a minor, unless you are the parent of the minor and it's in your own home.
- Should you decide to proceed with a party, expect to fall under scrutiny by neighbors and law enforcement.
- Should a complaint be made that requires a visit by the police, landlords and property managers are often notified of the visit.

The bottom line is you are responsible for what happens during and after your event.

The LAWS on Alcohol & Underage Drinking

From restricting drink specials, requiring keg registrations, and limiting the presence of minors in bars, Greene County and the City of Springfield **actively** enforce laws designed to protect persons under 21 from the hazards of underage drinking.

It's Illegal...

Minor in Possession

1. For any person under the age of 21 years to purchase or attempt to purchase, or have in his or her possession, any intoxicating liquor?
2. For any person under the age of 21 to be visibly intoxicated or to have a blood alcohol level of .02% or higher?

Fake I.D.

3. To use the license of another as your own, or to knowingly permit someone else to use your license?
4. To possess a reproduced, modified, or altered driver's license or identification card; or to display or possess any license known to be fictitious or to have been cancelled, suspended, revoked, disqualified, or altered?

Social Hosting

5. To allow a person under the age of 21 to consume or possess alcohol on property which you own, occupy, or have the exclusive use or enjoyment of; or fail to stop them from doing so, unless you are the parent of the minor?

Answer Key:
1. YES 2. YES 3. YES 4. YES 5. YES

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What is the **penalty** for an **underage drinking** offense?

Depending on the jurisdiction in which your case is filed, the punishments can include:

- Participation in a 6-hour alcohol awareness class (fee of \$150 or more)
- Fines
- Jail time
- Permanent criminal record

Prior alcohol convictions will increase the severity of the punishment.

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What is the **penalty** for providing **alcohol to a minor**?

Penalties may include:

- An expensive alcohol education program
 - Court costs and fines up to \$1,000
 - Up to one year in jail
- Community service and probation
 - Permanent criminal record

Other local ordinances that may affect you as a tenant include:

- open container
- disorderly conduct
- noisy assembly laws

Contact local jurisdictions for more information:

Greene County Prosecutor's Office

417-868-4160 or

www.greenecountymo.gov/prosecuting_attorney/

Springfield Municipal Prosecutor's Office

417-864-1890 or

www.springfieldmo.gov/312/municipal-court

What's a "Good Time" Worth?

In the case of a DWI conviction, you may experience...

Criminal Penalties

1st Offense..... **\$500 FINE & 6 MONTHS IN JAIL**

Keep in mind that, should you injure or kill someone while impaired, you may also face charges such as 2nd degree manslaughter and/or 2nd degree assault with a motor vehicle.

Other Possible Costs and Consequences

Hiring a criminal defense attorney..... **\$1000+**

Court imposed costs **\$400+**

Attendance at mandatory counseling and education programs **\$250+ TIME**

SR-22 insurance premiums **\$\$\$**

Suspension/revocation of driving privileges..... **INDEPENDENCE LOST**

Interlocking device on your vehicle..... **CONSTANT REMINDER + \$**

Conviction disclosure on college, employment & loan applications..... **OPPORTUNITIES LOST**

Professional licensure or certification can be jeopardized **DREAMS UNREALIZED**

Humiliation associated with public court appearances and newspaper announcements..... **PRICELESS**

The Hidden Consequences of Underage Drinking

Health

- Alcohol kills 5 times more teenagers than all other drugs COMBINED.
- Youth who drink alcohol are twice as likely to attempt suicide compared to non-drinkers.
- Alcohol addiction for minors occurs much faster than for adults. A young person may become addicted to alcohol in as little as 6 months.

Alcohol Poisoning

Some Signs...

- Can't Communicate
- Can't Stand Alone
- Can't Wake
- Slow Breathing
- Cool, Pale/Bluish Skin
- Irregular/Slow Pulse
- Vomits While Passed Out

Alcohol poisoning is a medical emergency. Coma, cardiac arrest, brain damage, and death are possible. Follow these steps to help the poisoned victim:

CALL 9-1-1

- Place person on his/her side •
- Don't leave person alone •

Career

Many professions requiring licensure or certification disallow individuals with an arrest record, even if the conviction was removed from record. Some of the careers affected may include:

- ✓ Accountant
- ✓ Architect
- ✓ Attorney
- ✓ Counselor
- ✓ Dentist/Dental Hygienist
- ✓ Engineer
- ✓ Funeral Director
- ✓ Land Surveyor
- ✓ Law Enforcement Officer
- ✓ Nurse or Physician
- ✓ Optometrist
- ✓ Pharmacist
- ✓ Pilot
- ✓ Psychologist
- ✓ Real Estate Broker
- ✓ Social Worker
- ✓ Stock Broker
- ✓ Teacher
- ✓ Veterinarian

Almost 33% of college students admit to having missed at least one class because of their alcohol or drug use, and nearly 25% report failing a test or project because of the aftereffects of drinking or doing drugs.*

One night of heavy drinking can impair a student's ability to think abstractly for up to 30 days, limiting his or her ability to relate textbook reading to what a professor says.*

* www.factsontap.org

WHAT'S YOUR **ALCOHOL GPA?**

Average number of drinks per week by grade

A	4.0 drinks
B	6.0 drinks
C	8.0 drinks
D or F	10.0 drinks

College Alcohol Study - Harvard School of Public Health

Party-Free

You Have Options

Myth: "I want to relax and have fun, but there's nothing to do but go to parties, bars, and clubs."



Truth: There are a tremendous number of fun activities in Springfield and surrounding areas that don't involve alcohol. You can:

Take in a movie at one of many unique theaters

Meet friends at one of the many coffee houses

Watch a baseball, basketball, football, soccer or hockey game

Try ice skating

Walk, bicycle, or boat on local nature trails and waterways

Rock climb

Visit art, wildlife, or history museums

Check out the many fitness centers

Go shopping


Paint your own pottery

Sample local theatre, symphony, and ballet productions

Stroll downtown galleries during monthly Art Walk events

Get involved as a volunteer, or check out the many activities available to you in the community. Whatever the interest, there's no shortage of things to do.

Be a Good Host & Neighbor

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- Respect the rights of your neighbors and their property.
 - Report suspicious activities to law enforcement.
 - Clean up any trash as soon as possible.
 - Be considerate of noise levels—yelling and shouting that disturbs others will not be tolerated. Those violating local ordinances will be held accountable and may be ticketed and fined by law enforcement.
 - Respect your neighbors right to a quiet and safe neighborhood.

For an emergency, call **911**



**View this booklet online at
cpozarks.org/substanceuseprevention**

This resource has been made possible by the Underage Drinking Task Force (UDTF) through funding provided by ACT Missouri.

The purpose of UDTF is to work collaboratively with our local law enforcement and judicial system, schools, alcohol retailers, treatment providers, property owners and others to prevent and reduce alcohol use and related consequences among those under 21 in our community.

The materials contained in this booklet have been prepared for informational and educational purposes only, and are not intended to convey or constitute health or legal advice or provide a substitute for obtaining health or legal advice.



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