

Underage drinking isn't just about drinking and driving...

Youth who drink alcohol are more likely to experience

- School problems
- Social problems
- Legal problems
- Physical problems
- Unwanted, unplanned, and unprotected sexual activity
- Disruption of normal growth and sexual development
 - Physical and sexual assault
- High risk for suicide and homicide
- Alcohol-related car crashes and other unintentional injuries, such as burns, falls, and drowning
 - Memory problems
- Changes in the brain development that may have life-long effects
- Death from alcohol poisoning



Alcohol and youth don't mix!

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East Haddam
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Growing a Healthy Community

Party Line

For parents who want to join the effort to prevent underage drinking.



Parents and guardians who join Party Line are pledging their homes will be places where youth will not have access to alcohol or other drugs, and that a responsible adult will properly supervise all youth gatherings.

Sponsored by East Haddam Youth & Family Services, Inc. and the East Haddam Local Prevention Council.



Did you know that in a recent Search Institute Survey...an average 33% of East Haddam youth, grades 7-12, reported attending one or more parties in the last year where same-age kids were drinking?

Not All Parents Have The Same House Rules!

Party Line helps promote consistent guidelines for parents and youth

Add your name to the list of involved parents by completing the enclosed form and returning it to EHYFS.

TIP LINE:

For parents and/or youth to report underage drinking, drugs use, or unsupervised parties.

ANONYMOUSLY:

Parties Your Kids Are Giving...

1. **Expect** and encourage calls from parents of teens confirming the party time and place.
2. **Inform** parents and teens that there will be no alcohol or drugs permitted in your home or on your property.
3. **Plan** on being home during the entire party and exercise proper supervision.
4. **Inform** teens that leaving and then returning to the party will not be permitted.
5. **Call** parents of teens who arrive at the party under the influence.
6. **Know who is invited.** Enforce a NO CRASHING policy!

Parties Your Kids Are Going To...

1. **Call** the parents of the party giver to:
 - Verify the occasion
 - Make sure a parent will be home
 - Be sure that alcohol and drugs will not be permitted.
2. **Agree** upon a specific time your child will return home before your child leaves for the party.
3. **Know** how your teens will get to and from the party, and if needed, be available to provide transportation.
4. **Tell** your kids never to ride home with a driver (including an impaired adult) who has been drinking or is under the influence of drugs. Instruct them to call you for a ride if needed.
5. **Be awake**, or be sure to have them wake you, when they arrive home.
6. **Avoid** spontaneous "sleepovers" when possible.

Guidelines for Parents

- Inform your child that you have joined Party Line and discuss it with them.
- Assure your child that he/she can telephone you to be picked up whenever needed.
- Get to know your child's friends and their parents.
- Be aware that many parties, sleepovers and other activities in your community are being held without supervision and that alcohol and drugs are frequently present.
- Listen to your child.
- Communicate with other parents. Stay involved with your child.
- Be reasonable, consistent and specific in your rules.
- Actively support and enforce a clear, consistent message for all youth that there will be NO USE of alcohol, tobacco, or any other drugs.
- Welcome a phone call from other parents supporting your combined commitment.

Remember: Research points to parental involvement as being the single most important factor in an adolescent's relationship to alcohol and other drugs.