

## When You are Away

- Arrange for your teen to stay with a trusted adult if you leave town.
- Set clear rules with your teen in advance about not allowing parties at your home when you are away.
- Inform the parents of your teen's friends when you will be away.
- Inform neighbors when you plan to be away. Let them know the rules about who is allowed/not allowed on the premises. Encourage them to call you or the police if a party occurs.
- Join or form a Block Watch program.

## Do your Part

By high school, teens are becoming more and more independent. The fact remains - they still need help from caring adults.

It takes a community, so please join our valley-wide effort in keeping our teens healthy and safe.

### Family Pledge

Have you and your teens signed the pledge?  
[www.snoqualmievalleycommunitynetwork.org](http://www.snoqualmievalleycommunitynetwork.org)



## The SCIENCE is clear:

- ◆ **Early drug use** puts the developing brain at risk and substantially increases the likelihood for addiction.
- ◆ **Parents who allow** their kids to drink at home, drink often and heavily outside the home are more at risk for substance use disorders.
- ◆ **Under the age of 21**, there is NO safe level for alcohol and marijuana consumption.



### AGREE with your TEEN that...

1. No drinking alcohol, using marijuana or other drugs allowed before age 21.
2. No socializing in places where teens are drinking or using drugs.
3. No riding in a car with a driver who has had any amount of alcohol or other mood-altering substances.

## Other Resources

24-hour Crisis Line: 866-427-4747  
Washington Recovery Helpline: 866-789-1511

Friends of Youth: 425-392-6367  
Youth Eastside Services: 425-747-4937

In an emergency, always call 911

# Where's the Party?



## A PARENT GUIDE

For Safe  
Teen Gatherings

Sponsored by  
**Snoqualmie Valley Community Network**  
[snoqualmievalleycommunitynetwork.org](http://snoqualmievalleycommunitynetwork.org)

## The Law

**It is illegal for someone under 21 to possess or consume alcohol or marijuana.**

- Parents can be **arrested and criminally charged** for providing a place for minors to consume alcohol.
- It is **illegal to permit minors to consume alcohol on your property** including your boat, motor home, undeveloped property, cabin, automobile, rental property or house.
- It is **illegal to give alcohol to your child's friends who are under 21**. You may be fined up to \$5,000 and a year in jail.
- It is a **federal felony** to provide underage people with marijuana.

## Hosting a Party

- Plan invitation only parties, set a time limit and help your teen screen for party crashers.
- Establish that guests are expected to stay at the party unless you have a parent's permission to let them go.
- Insist that the party is free of alcohol, drugs and tobacco. Call the parents of any teens who arrive in possession or under the influence.
- Establish that adult supervision will be present; invite other parents to help you supervise; be visible, but keep a low profile.
- Don't be pressured into staying out of sight.
- Designate rooms that are off-limits and leave the lights on in order to make supervision easier.
- Provide food/beverages and greet guests at the door. Be aware that teens can hide drugs and /or alcohol in disguised containers.
- Backpacks, coats and purses must be left at the door. Cups, open cans/bottles cannot be brought into the party.
- Anyone that leaves the party should not be allowed to return. This discourages party-goers from leaving, drinking or using drugs and then returning to your home.
- Put away and lock up beer, wine, liquor, firearms and medications.
- Notify neighbors when planning a large party.
- Despite careful precautions, do not hesitate to call the police. Call before the party has a chance of getting out of hand.



## When the Party is Elsewhere

- Know your child's plans for the whole evening. Set a time to arrive at home. Ask your teen to call you if there is a change in location.
- Call the host parent to be sure that a parent will be present and that no alcohol or drugs will be allowed. Ask if they will be actively checking on the party, not just in another room.
- Discuss possible situations where your teen might need to call you for a ride, no questions asked. Create a safeword.
- Share your views with your teen regarding underage alcohol and drug use.
- Discuss how to handle problem situations; role-play a comfortable way to refuse alcohol and other drugs.
- Be awake or have your teen wake you up when they arrive home, be aware of any signs of substance abuse, ask how the party went.

**Parents are the leading influence** in their teens decisions about whether or not to start drinking or using drugs.