

Social Host

What is a Social Host?

A social host is any person who owns or has control of private property and hosts or allows a party on the property without taking reasonable steps to prevent the use of alcoholic drinks, marijuana, and/or other controlled substances by youth under the age of 21. Youth 18 years of age and older can be considered a "social host" and face legal charges.

Legal Charges

Anyone who violates Escondido's Social Host Ordinance could face the following consequences:

- A fine of \$1,000
- A minimum of 24 hours of community service
- 6 months to 1 year in jail
- Responsible for any injuries by third parties as a result of a minor guest's actions
- Responsible for costs of enforcement services in response to such a party

Report Underage Drinking

24 hours



760-839-4722

Escondido's Dispatch Number

760-743-8477 (TIPS)

Anonymous Tip Line

For more information about Escondido's Social Host Ordinance or to anonymously report underage drinking, visit:
<http://police.escondido.org>



CRISIS LINE

(888)724-7240

24 HOURS A DAY

BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Palomar Health Communities Coalition

Meetings:

First Tuesday of Every Month
From 8:30AM to 10:00AM at the
Escondido Police & Fire Headquarters



Palomar Health
Communities Coalition



Escondido Education
COMPACT

220 S Broadway
Escondido, CA 92025
(760) 839-4515



**Palomar Health
Communities Coalition
Escondido**

Who is drinking in your home?



**It's not about taking their keys...
There is a safer answer**

Know the law!

This publication was made possible by a grant from
ONDPC and SAMHSA

Don't be a party to underage drinking!

It is a bad idea!

Underage drinking is a dangerous problem in our communities.

- In 2010, more than 1,900 youth, ages 12 to 20, were admitted to local emergency rooms with a diagnosis of alcohol abuse, according to the San Diego County's Emergency Discharge Database.
- That same year, the California Highway Patrol reported 324 drinking-and-driving collisions in San Diego County involving drivers under the age of 21.
- On average, 28 minors (ages 20 and younger) die each year in San Diego County with alcohol in their system, according to San Diego County Medical Examiner's Office.

Youth who drink alcohol are more likely to experience:

- Problems in school, such as more absent days and poor grades.
- Unwanted, unplanned, and unprotected sexual activity.
- Legal problems, such as arrest for driving or physically hurting someone while drunk.
- Memory problems.
- Higher risk for suicide & homicide.
- Alcohol-related car crashes.
- Unintentional injuries, such as burns, falls, and drowning.

Know your responsibilities as host:

- Control Access – keep alcohol away from minors at your party.
- Control Quantity – Don't buy so much you lose track of who has what.
- Verify Age – You have a responsibility to know how old everyone is at your party.
- Supervise – You MUST supervise the activities of minors in attendance and ensure they're NOT drinking.

Have a Safe Teenage Party:

- No smoking, No drugs, No alcohol.
- No uninvited guests.
- Youth not to leave the party & returning without adult permission and supervision.
- Party area should have good lighting.
- Parent will be providing supervision by serving refreshments, etc.
- Make some rooms in your home off limits to guests.
- Lock up all forms of alcohol, prescription drugs, firearms and other dangerous items in a safe place.
- If you think a teen guest has been using a controlled substance, contact their parents.
- Ask all uninvited guests to leave right away. Call the police to remove unwanted guests.

FAQ

If all kids are going to drink anyway, Isn't it better to "take the keys" and provide them a safe environment?

No. Driving drunk is not the only negative outcome of underage drinking. Drinking parties often involve binge drinking (5 or more drinks on one occasion) which greatly increases the risk of alcohol poisoning, accidents and injury, motor vehicle crashes, mixing alcohol with other drugs, violence, sexual abuse and the practice of unsafe and unprotected sex.

If my child is arrested and found guilty, will this appear on his/her permanent record?

Anyone over the age of 18 found guilty of being a social host will face charges that will go on their criminal record.

Can a parent be criminally charged if the parent allows their child to consume alcohol in the privacy of their own home?

A parent cannot be charged under the Escondido Social Host Ordinance if, in their presence, they allow their underage child to consume alcohol in their residence. However, allowing someone else's child to consume alcohol in your home is illegal.