



## If You Are Going Away

- Set and communicate rules and standards to be followed in your absence.
- Do not allow underage youth to have unsupervised parties or gatherings.
- Remind them of their responsibilities and the consequences of their actions.
- Have a relative or responsible adult stay at your home during your absence, have your teenager stay with a responsible adult or ask a neighbor to watch the house and stop in while you are gone.
- If you are concerned that your child might have a party anyway, you can call your local police and ask them to drive by at some point over the time you are gone. Make it a point to tell your child that you have asked the police to do this.



## EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS

**Alcohol Crisis Line for Bennington County**  
**(802) 442-5491**

This is a 24 hour hotline will get you to emergency services.

**Rescue Squad Manchester**  
**911**

Covers Manchester, Dorset, East Dorset, Danby,  
Mt. Tabor, Rupert and Winhall

**Rescue Squad Londonderry**  
**911**

Covers Londonderry, Weston, Peru, Winhall, Stratton  
and Jamaica

**Manchester Police Department**  
**911**

Covers Manchester

**Vermont State Police Rochester**  
**(802) 875-2112**  
or **911**

Covers Peru, Weston, Londonderry and Landgrove

**Vermont State Police Shaftsbury**  
**(802) 442-5421**  
or **911**

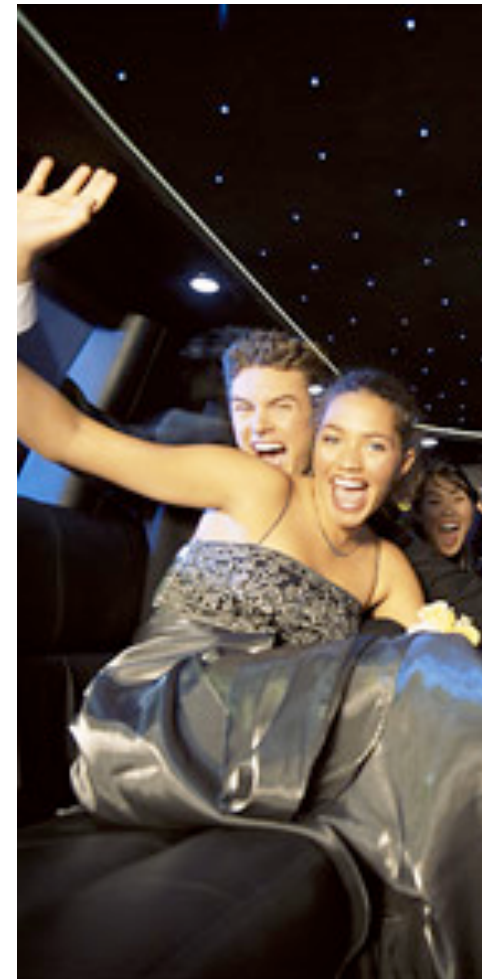
Covers Bennington County

**Winhall Police Department**  
**911**

Covers Winhall area, including Stratton



## TIPS FOR ADULTS TO HOST SAFE AND MEMORABLE CELEBRATIONS FOR TEENS



Ideas to keep your teen safe.



## If Your Teen is Attending a Party

- Know where your child will be. Call the parent in charge to verify the occasion and location of the party and ensure there will be adult supervision.
- Ask how many teens are expected at the party and offer to help supervise or provide refreshments.
- Make certain that the host will not be serving or allowing alcohol. Ask how they plan to handle the situation if a teen shows up with alcohol or has been drinking.
- Indicate your expectations to your child and the parent hosting the party that if the teens leave and go somewhere else, you will want to know.
- Set a curfew for your teen to be home and when they arrive home, have them check in with you.
- Know how your child is getting to and from the party. Reinforce the message to your teenager that they should never allow someone who has been drinking or using other drugs to drive them anywhere.
- Assure your child that they can telephone you to be picked up whenever needed.
- If the activity seems inappropriate, express concern and keep your child home.
- Create a code phrase that your child can say to you on the telephone from a party that discreetly lets you know they don't feel safe and would like to be picked up immediately.

## Hosting a Substance Free Teen Party

- Help your teen plan the party. Make a guest list and invite only a specific number of people.
- Don't send email invitations. Have your child pass out or mail invitations to avoid the "open party" situation.
- Put your phone number on the invitation and welcome calls from parents.
- Set rules ahead such as no alcohol, drugs or tobacco. Another suggested idea is no one is allowed into the party 1/2 hour after it begins unless they are coming from work and have a note explaining their tardiness.
- Set a start and end time for the party.
- Let guests know that if they leave, they cannot come back.
- Have plenty of food and nonalcoholic beverages.
- Have your teen plan activities such as music, games and movies, etc.
- Limit the party access to a certain area of the house/property.
- Call parents of any teen who arrives in possession of alcohol or under the influence. If you can't reach the parents, keep the teen there or call the police if necessary. You can be civilly liable if you know they have been drinking and you let them leave.
- Secure all forms of alcohol, firearms and other potentially dangerous items.
- Make regular visits to the party area with sensitivity to your teens need to privacy and independence.

The

**Collaborative**

Supporting Substance Free Youth

[www.thecollaborative.us](http://www.thecollaborative.us)

## Underage Drinking Risks for Parents

Adults may not give alcohol to anyone underage—not even their own children. In Vermont, if you give or sell alcohol to a minor, or help them buy it, you can be fined between \$500 and \$2,000 and sentenced up to two years in jail. An adult can be charged separately for every minor they give alcohol to.

If you give alcohol to minors who drive and hurt themselves or others, you can be charged with a felony and sentenced to five years in jail and fined up to \$10,000.

If a minor drinks on your property and breaks the law, you can be charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor, and if someone at the party were to die, you may be charged with involuntary manslaughter.

Homeowners leave themselves financially liable for any damages caused by underage teens that consumed alcohol at their property. Also, homeowners leave themselves financially liable for any damages caused by underage teens that consumed alcohol at their property.