

Consequences... It can be a VERY costly choice!

- ▷ It's a criminal offense in NJ to allow underage drinking in your home, so for starters, you're looking at a disorderly persons charge – that's a record and a fine!
- ▷ **Pequannock Takes Underage Drinking Seriously!** For your teenager and his/her friends, Pequannock Township has a local Underage Drinking Ordinance. This local ordinance makes it unlawful for a person under the legal age of 21 to possess or consume alcoholic beverages on private property in Pequannock Township. (*Subsection 043.02.01*) Violations of this ordinance may carry fines AND the Court may suspend or postpone the driving privilege of the defendant for 6 months, and require community service for up to 30 days. **Your homeowners insurance may increase.** The company may even drop you. Most policies don't cover damage or theft from underage drinking parties.
- ▷ If an underage party-goer drives after drinking, it will cost you. If your car is damaged or if you submit a claim on your insurance policy, get ready to pay out again. Additionally, you may risk losing your policy. **You will be held civilly liable if sued by another parent.** Injuries, alcohol poisoning, sexual assault, drowning, or suicide may result in lawsuits. You can't put a price on relationships, but you've just lost the trust of other parents and you've lost the respect of your neighbors and friends.
- ▷ Contact the **Pequannock Police Department** at 973-835-1700 should you have concerns about underage drinking in our community.

It's a criminal offense in New Jersey to allow underage drinking in your home.



**PEQUANNOCK TWP.
COALITION**
Empowering Positive Choices
for a Stronger Community

If you would like more information on ways to prevent youth substance use and abuse, including underage drinking, or have any questions, please call the **Pequannock Township Coalition** at 973-625-1998 or visit our website at www.ptcmorris.org.

The **Pequannock Township Coalition** was established in 2011 through a Drug Free Communities grant. Our mission is to prevent and reduce youth substance use and abuse in the Pequannock Township Community.

PTC is comprised of local community leaders, school and municipal employees, clergy, businesses, and private citizens who want to be involved in preventing alcohol and drug-related problems in our community.

We would love to have you join us! Please visit www.ptcmorris.org for information about our meetings and latest initiatives.

Municipal Alliance of
Pequannock
MAC @ peqtwp.org



PTC is funded by the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) and is a collaborative partnership between Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) and Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA).



A program of Drug - Free Action Alliance
www.DrugFreeActionAlliance.org

**GET THE
FACTS.
THEY'RE
SOBERING.**

FACT: It is a criminal offense in the state of New Jersey (2C:33-17a) to serve alcohol to anyone who is under the legal age of 21.

FACT: It is a criminal offense in the state of New Jersey (2C:33-17b) to make your home or property available for the purpose of allowing minors a place to consume alcohol.

FACT: New Jersey's Social Host Liability Law imposes civil penalties on social hosts who serve alcohol to minors who subsequently are involved in incidents causing death or injury.

Alcohol – Youth’s #1 Drug of Choice!

- ▷ National research shows that 57% of minors reported drinking at friends’ homes. Local surveys suggest that 60% - 80% of 11th and 12th graders obtain alcohol from home or home parties, with 30% reporting that they consume alcohol at home with their parent’s permission.*
- ▷ 7.8% of New Jersey’s 8th graders and 10% of New Jersey’s 7th graders have used alcohol in the past 30 days.**
- ▷ About 4 in 5 (78.5%) of NJ’s high school students have used alcohol in their lifetime and nearly half (48%) used alcohol in the past 30 days.**
- ▷ Nationally, 12% of 8th graders, 22% of 10th graders, and 29% of 12th graders report having consumed five or more drinks in a row in the last two weeks.**

Consequences of Use

- ▷ More than 40% of individuals who begin drinking before age 13 will develop alcohol abuse or dependency at some point in their lives.**
- ▷ Underage drinking is a factor in nearly half of all teen automobile crashes and 50% – 65% of youth suicides. Alcohol abuse is linked to as many as two-thirds of all sexual assaults and date rapes of teens and college students.*
- ▷ 27.9% of New Jersey’s 7th and 8th graders who used alcohol in the past 30 days got F’s.**
- ▷ Almost 12% of adolescent drinkers engage in alcohol-related physical fighting.**



Suggestions for Parents if your teen is giving a party:

- ▷ Put your phone number on the invitation and welcome calls from parents.
- ▷ Be clear that there will be no alcohol, drugs, or tobacco at this party
- ▷ Avoid sending e-mail invitations as these can be easily forwarded to mass amounts of people and you can lose control of who has the information.
- ▷ Let attendees know that if they leave the party, they can’t come back.
- ▷ Limit party access to a certain area of the house/property.
- ▷ Be sure all forms of alcohol, firearms, and over the counter/prescription medications are secured and in a safe place.

What Can You Do As Parents?

- ▷ Talk to your kids about the consequences of alcohol and drugs, AND don’t be afraid to talk to your kids’ circle of friends. Set and communicate clear rules – be direct about your expectations and the consequences of your child’s actions.
- ▷ If your teen is attending a party, call the parent host to ensure there will be appropriate supervision and no alcohol. Call your friends’ parents and make sure you’re all on the same page about underage drinking and how your child is getting to and from the party. ALWAYS give your child permission to call you at any hour for any reason for a ride. Help your child identify another adult they trust and can also call at any time for help.
- ▷ Meetings of the Municipal Alliances are held the last Wednesday of each month at 1pm at the town hall and are open to the public. **Parents are especially welcome to attend.**
- ▷ Be a good role-model for your child.
- ▷ Help your teen to make good choices.
- ▷ Talk to older siblings about the consequences of supplying alcohol to younger brothers and sisters or their friends.

Where Can You Turn for Help? IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Addiction Helpline of Parents Support NJ	800-561-4299
Addiction Hotline of New Jersey	800-238-2333
Alcoholics Anonymous	800-245-1377
AlAnon/AlaTeen – families/friends	973-744-8686
Center for Alcohol & Drug Resources	201-488-8680
Nar-Anon Families & Friends of Addicts	800 484-7385
Narcotics Anonymous of NJ	800 992-0401
National Suicide Prevention Hotline	800-273-TALK
National Runaway Switchboard	800 RUNAWAY
National Youth Crisis Hotline	800-448-4663
Parents Anonymous/Family Helpline	800-843-5437
Psychiatric Crisis Intervention Unit	201-262-HELP
Rape Crisis Hotline – 24 hour hotline	201-487-2227
Safe Haven for Infants Hotline	877-839-2339
Jersey Battered Women's Service	973-267-4673
NJ Domestic Violence Hotline	800-572-7233
Division of Youth & Family Services	800-792-8610
First Call for Help (connect & get answers)	2-1-1

Useful Websites

National Council on Alcoholism & Drug Dependence	www.ncaddnj.org
National Institute on Alcohol Abuse & Alcoholism	www.niaaa.nih.gov
New Jersey Prevention Network	www.njpn.org
Drug Free New Jersey	www.drugfreej.org
Morris County Prevention Is Key	www.mcpikey.org
New Jersey Quit Net	www.nj.quitnet.com
Willow Tree Center	www.willowtree.org
The Center on Alcohol Marketing & Youth	www.camy.org
Teens - Freevibe	www.freevibe.com
Young Teens- The Cool Spot	www.thecoolspot.gov
Parents - The Anti-Drug	www.theantidrug.com
Family Guide	www.family.samhsa.gov
Northern NJ SAFE KIDS	www.preventionworks-nj.org
New Bridge Services	www.newbridge.org
40 Developmental Assets	www.search-institute.org
Youth Empowerment Alliance	www.uwmorris.org
Find Treatment	www.findtreatment.samhsa.gov
NJ Al-Anon/Ala-teen	www.nj-al-anon.org

*Source: Institute for Public Strategies Briefing

**Source: National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence – New Jersey