

Social Hosting Ordinances
What Rockwood Parents Need to Know About
Hosting Parties with Alcohol for Minors



Where: Cities of Wildwood and Clarkson Valley, MO

Why: Local municipalities are increasingly concerned about the safety within, and integrity of, their neighborhoods and communities. There is considerable evidence that correlates public safety and the abuse of alcohol and controlled substances, particularly alcohol and substance abuse by minors. Social Hosting Ordinances are viewed as a means of expressing and enforcing the standard of accountability that protects citizens and their communities.

What: It shall be unlawful for any responsible person to allow, permit or host a loud or unruly gathering at a residence or other private property. Such gathering may be abated by an order of a Police Officer directing the host or other responsible person to cause all persons in or on said premises who are not lawful residents thereof to disperse not more than fifteen (15) minutes after the host or other responsible person receives an order to do so issued by a Police Officer. Whenever an adult having control of the residence or premises is present at that residence or premises at the time an underage person obtains, possesses, or consumes any alcoholic beverage or controlled substance, it shall be viewed that such an adult had the knowledge or should have had the knowledge that the underage person obtained, possessed or consumed an alcoholic beverage or controlled substance at the gathering.

No responsible person shall allow a loud or unruly gathering to take place or continue at said residence or premises if an underage person at the party obtains, possesses or consumes any alcoholic beverages or controlled substances and the responsible person knows or reasonably should know that the underage person has obtained, possesses or is consuming alcoholic beverages or controlled substances at the gathering.

A first response to a residence or property will usually result in a warning to the responsible adults an/or property owners. Subsequent responses to that property will result in arrest.

After the first response to a property or residence, fines and response costs can be imposed upon adults found to be in violation of these ordinances.