

# Our Children, Parties, and the Law

Information and guidelines for  
parents and youth.



August 2005

## Monroe County Safe Community Coalition

The Coalition is committed to promoting the positive development of youth and families through building assets and resiliency against risk behaviors. The Monroe County Safe Community Coalition will promote community awareness, provide opportunities to support healthy family environments, and encourage networking among youth, families, community resources, and service organizations.

Coalition members include representation from parents, youth, school districts, health department, human services, law enforcement, community leaders, boys & girls clubs, domestic abuse, judges, emergency management, tavern league, traffic safety, Ho Chunk Nation and Monroe County Board as well as anyone else interested in coalition efforts.

Recognizing the need for positive role models, skill development, and resistance to peer pressure, the Safe Community Coalition will continue to work with parents, school officials and law enforcement to make Monroe County a safer place to live, work and play for all young people and their families.

Monroe County Safe Community Coalition  
514 Hollister Avenue  
Tomah WI 54660  
608-343-5831 Phone  
608-372-6999 Fax

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Alcohol, tobacco and other drug use contribute to many problems for children, youth and their families. Alcohol, tobacco and other drugs are the leading cause of death in youth. It has a severe impact on school attendance and school achievement and can lead to significant family conflict.

This booklet is designed to assist you as a parent in helping your child resist the pressures of involvement with alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs.

Children are faced with many difficult decisions and pressures. Appropriate guidelines and support from parents helps them withstand these pressures. This includes **NOT PROVIDING ALCOHOL FOR YOUR CHILDREN AND THEIR FRIENDS IN YOUR HOME!!** It's against the law and can result in hefty fines and even jail time. It is "OK" for parents to "Say NO" to their children and for youth to "Say NO" to their peers. Many times the loving thing to do as a parent will not be easy. Please set a good example for your children when dealing with alcohol and drugs.

This pamphlet provides information and resources that will help parents and guardians and their children make safer, wiser choices.

*Members of the Monroe County Safe Community Coalition*

## Guidelines for Parents Hosting Teen Parties

### Parent Responsibilities include:

- Parents should be at home and visible during any and all parties for teens.
- Invite other parents if your teen's party is large.
- Put away and secure beer, liquor and medications.
- Have plenty of food and nonalcoholic drinks on hand.
- Be a good neighbor; notify neighbors of plans for parties. Respect the rights of your neighbors. Ask them to call or come over if they have concerns about the behavior of teens at the party.
- Notify parents of any teen who arrives at the party under the influence of alcohol or any other drug to ensure the teen's safe transportation home.
- Be alert to signs of teen alcohol and drug use including unusual or suspicious behavior and frequent comings and goings.

If in spite of all your precautions and good intentions, the situation gets out of hand, do not hesitate to call the local police department for assistance!

## Establish Party Ground Rules

- ✓ All family members should expect to be treated with respect.
- ✓ No alcohol or drugs should be brought or served.
- ✓ Set a time limit and a limit on the number of guests allowed.

## General Guidelines for Parents and Teens Attending Parties at another Home or Location

- ✓ Know the laws regarding your teen. **YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE!!**
- ✓ Be sure your teen knows when he or she is to be home.
- ✓ Know where your teen will be and whom they will be with. Don't be afraid to call other parents and check on your teen.
- ✓ Talk to your teen when he or she arrives home.
- ✓ Get to know your children's friends and their parents. Keep in touch with them during your children's teen years.
- ✓ Verify sleepovers with friend's parents.

# Alcohol & Drinking Laws for Underage Persons Monroe County, Wisconsin

- ★ Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages by an underage person. 125.074(b) \*2<sup>nd</sup> offense or more within 1 year (DLS - Driver License Suspension)

## **Fines for those 16 and Under**

1<sup>st</sup> Offense - \$50.00 and/or 90 days DLS  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense\* - \$100.00 and/or 1 yr DLS  
3<sup>rd</sup> Offense - \$200.00 and/or 2 yr DLS

## **Fines for those 17 – 20**

1<sup>st</sup> Offense - \$248.00 90 days DLS  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense\* - \$373.00 1 yr DLS  
3<sup>rd</sup> Offense - \$498.00 2 yr DLS  
4<sup>th</sup> Offense - \$748.00 Revocation

- ★ No underage person may purchase or attempt to purchase any alcoholic beverages. 125.07(1)

## **Fines for those 16 and Under**

1<sup>st</sup> Offense - \$50.00 and/or 90 days DLS  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense\* - \$100.00 and/or 1 yr DLS  
3<sup>rd</sup> Offense - \$200.00 and/or 2 yr DLS

## **Fines for those 17 – 20**

1<sup>st</sup> Offense - \$248.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense\* - \$373.00  
3<sup>rd</sup> Offense - \$498.00  
4<sup>th</sup> Offense - \$748.00

- ★ How does it apply to adults?

State statute 125.07(1) No adult may knowingly permit or fail to take action to prevent illegal consumption of alcoholic beverages by an underage person on premises owned by the adult or under the adult's control.

If an adult has an underage drinking party, citations will be issued to the adult for each under age person found to be drinking. The fine is **\$279.25 per citation.**

1<sup>st</sup> Offense - \$250.00  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense - \$300.00 and/or 30 days in jail or community service  
3<sup>rd</sup> Offense - \$500.00 and/or 90 days in jail or community service

# Alcohol & Drinking Laws for Underage Persons City of Sparta

- ☛ Possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages by an underage person. 125.074(b) \*2<sup>nd</sup> Offense or more within 1 yr (DLS – Driver License Suspension)

### **Fines for those 16 and Under**

1<sup>st</sup> Offense - \$107.75 /90 day DLS  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense\* - \$164.00/1 yr. DLS  
3<sup>rd</sup> Offense - \$289.00 /2 yr DLS

### **Fines for those 17 – 20**

1<sup>st</sup> Offense - \$164.00/90 day DLS  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense\* - \$289.00/1 yr DLS  
3<sup>rd</sup> Offense - \$414.00/2 yr DLS  
4<sup>th</sup> Offense - \$670.25/2 yr DLS

- ☛ No underage person may purchase or attempt to purchase any alcohol beverages. 125.074(a)

### **Fines for those 16 and under**

1<sup>st</sup> Offense - \$345.25/90 day DLS  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense - \$407.75/1 yr DLS  
3<sup>rd</sup> Offense - \$657.75/2 yr DLS

### **Fines for those 17 – 20**

1<sup>st</sup> Offense - \$345.25/90 day DLS  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense - \$407.75/1 yr DLS  
3<sup>rd</sup> Offense - \$657.75/2 yr DLS  
4<sup>th</sup> Offense - \$970.25/2 yr DLS

- ☛ How does it apply to adults?

State statute 125.07(1) No adult may knowingly permit or fail to take action to prevent illegal consumption of alcoholic beverages by an underage person on premises owned by the adult or under the adult's control.

1<sup>st</sup> Offense - \$157.75  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense - \$300 and/or 30 days in jail or community service  
3<sup>rd</sup> Offense - \$500 and/or 90 days in jail or community service

Sparta has underage youth alcohol program and referrals to Coulee Youth Centers in Lacrosse available.

Alcohol & Drinking Laws for Underage Persons  
City of Tomah

- ☛ Possession or consumption of alcohol beverages by an underage person. 125.074(b) \*2<sup>nd</sup> Offense or more within 1 yr (DLS – Driver License Suspension)

- Additional court costs could be added to fines -

**Fines for those 16 and Under**

1<sup>st</sup> Offense – \$50.00/90 day DLS  
(Option to take alcohol assessment)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense\* - \$100.00/1 yr. DLS

**Fines for those 17 – 20**

1<sup>st</sup> Offense - \$100.00/90 day DLS  
(Option to take alcohol assessment)  
2<sup>nd</sup> Offense\* - \$200.00/1 yr DLS  
3<sup>rd</sup> Offense - \$300.00/2 yr DLS  
4<sup>th</sup> Offense - \$500.00/2 yr DLS

If a person receives an underage alcohol ticket for 1<sup>st</sup> offense, and they also receive a ticket for minor transporting at the same time, they are not allowed the same deal of taking the class in lieu of the fine and DLS. They have to pay for both tickets and have the DLS of 90 days.

- ☛ No underage person may purchase or attempt to purchase any alcohol beverages. 125.074(a) - **\$500.00 fine.**

- ☛ How does it apply to adults?

State statute 125.07(1) No adult may knowingly permit or fail to take action to prevent illegal consumption of alcoholic beverages by an underage person on premises owned by the adult or under the adult's control - **\$250.00 fine plus court costs**

Tomah uses the Coulee Youth Center in LaCrosse for underage alcohol assessment for 1<sup>st</sup> time offenders. The cost of the class is \$35.00 per person.



Tobacco Violations 938.983(2) a-b-c

Monroe County

**Fines for those under 16**  
**All Offenses - \$25.00**

**Fines for those 16-20**  
**All Offenses - \$135.50**

City of Sparta

**Fines for those under 16**  
**All Offenses - \$82.75**

**Fines for those 16-20**  
**All Offenses - \$82.75**

City of Tomah

**Fines for those under 16**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offense - \$71.00**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense - \$142.00**

**Fines for those 16-20**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Offense - \$71.00**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Offense - \$142.00**

**Mandatory 20 hrs Community Service**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offense - \$142.00**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Offense - \$142.00**

**Mandatory 80 hrs Community Service**

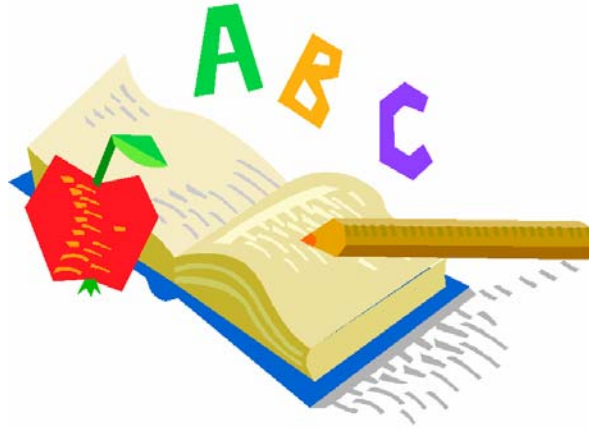
## Did you know... .

- Peer pressure: substance abuse can begin as young as age 11.
- Pregnancy: 3 out of 4 teen pregnancies occur while a youth is under the influence.
- Accidents: alcohol related motor vehicle accidents are the leading cause of death for adolescents.
- Suicide: over half of the teenagers committing suicide have alcohol or other drugs in their system.

### **Some statistics of interest:**

Statistics reflect the results of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey in which schools from Cashton, Norwalk-Ontario-Wilton, Sparta and Tomah participated 2001-2003.

- ✓ 57% of students surveyed drank alcohol during the past month (of the survey).
- ✓ 52% used alcohol before 13 years old
- ✓ 47% of students have used Marijuana (lifetime)
- ✓ 33% of area high schools and 9% of middle school students smoke
- ✓ 37% of students have ridden in a car with someone who has been drinking
- ✓ 17% of students have driven a car while drinking



**School district policies on alcohol and other drug possession and use.**

**Each school district in Monroe County has it's own drug and alcohol policies. Please refer to the policy from your home school district for specific guidelines. Some common themes in most of the policies are the following:**

- ➔ The appearance in school or at school-sponsored events by students who are under the influence of any drug is forbidden.**
- ➔ Law enforcement will be notified of violators of state and local laws.**
- ➔ Students who participate in athletic or extracurricular activities may face additional consequences.**
- ➔ Guidance counselors or administration staff many also refer the student for chemical dependency screening and supportive school and community service.**
- ➔ As individualized consequences students may receive in school detention or suspension, out of school suspension and, in very serious or repeated violations, expulsion.**
- ➔ Parents will be made aware of evidence of possession or use of alcohol or drugs on school property.**



Law Enforcement in Monroe County

**Monroe County Sheriff's Department – 269-2117 (Sparta)  
372-2117 (Tomah)**

**Camp Douglas Police Department – 427-3111**

**Cashton Police Department – 654-7828**

**Fort McCoy Police Department – 388-2266**

**Sparta Police Department – 269-3122**

**Tomah Police Department – 374-7400**

Sources of information and  
help in Monroe County

<b>Crime Stoppers</b>	<b>608-372-7867</b>
<b>Domestic Abuse</b>	<b>608-269-7853</b>
<b>Drug Tip Hotline</b>	<b>800-622-3784</b>
<b>Families First of Monroe County</b>	<b>608-374-4141</b>
<b>First Call for Help</b>	<b>800-362-8255</b>
<b>Missing Children Hotline</b>	<b>800-843-5678</b>
<b>National Child Abuse Hotline</b>	<b>800-422-4453</b>
<b>National Runaway Switchboard</b>	<b>800-621-4000</b>
<b>Poison Control Center</b>	<b>800-815-8855</b>
<b>Substance Abuse Hotline</b>	<b>800-662-HELP</b>
<b>Suicide Hotline</b>	<b>800-647-2642</b>
<b>Wisconsin Tobacco Quit Line</b>	<b>877-270-7867</b>
<b>Wisconsin Women's Healthline</b>	<b>800-218-8408</b>