

Guidelines for Residential Parties

Parties conducted on a person's residential property might include amplified music and a large number of people. These parties can pose various problems: such as noise complaints, parking issues and underage drinking. This handout provides some general information that can assist you if you're planning to host a party.

- Let your neighbors know that you're having a party. Details to share would be:
 - if there will be outdoor music
 - the number of people expected
 - possible parking issues and the solution
 - when it will conclude
 - your name and cell phone number in case there are any problems
- Outdoor music should end no later than 11:00PM.
- Identify access points to the party and limit them.
- Remove any and all valuables from plain site and if possible, lock them up. Examples of valuables that can easily be taken are wallets, jewelry, mobile phones, digital cameras, I-pods, etc.
- Consider your neighbors, limit the number of guests or consider moving guests inside of your home to minimize the noise.
- Obtain No Parking Signs from the Creve Coeur Police Department the week prior to the party (Mon-Fri, 8-6) at no charge. You are responsible for posting them in accordance with Police directions. Posts are not provided.
- Make it clear: no invite - no entry. It's easier to refuse admittance than to remove people later.

Teen Age-or Under Age Parties:

- Don't serve alcohol to young people under the age of 21; it is illegal. Our city ordinances prohibit the serving or allowing minors to drink, possess or consume alcohol on your property.
- Consider limiting coming and going, to avoid teens drinking at their cars and returning to your property.
- Have plenty of non-alcoholic drinks, water and food available throughout the night.
- Do not email, post on a blog or personal website, organize via chat, or SMS your invites on a general basis, as this could foster or encourage others showing up that were not invited.
- Enlist the support of several responsible older people to be discreetly on hand for the duration of the party. Make sure they are not drinking or setting a bad example if teenagers or children are around.
- How will people get home? Consider pick up by parents or older siblings at the end of the party.
- Discuss the details of the party and agree on a plan if someone gets sick or if anything goes wrong.
- If you're having more than about 20 guests and are concerned things could get out of hand you may wish to consider hiring security or off-duty police officers to assist. If you hire security guards, make sure they're licensed. Fully brief the officers about the party and make sure that they are familiar with the premises. For larger events you might

consider holding the party at a hall as a more suitable and safer venue.

- Be aware of the City's Curfew Ordinance (210.590) for minors under the age of 17 years. These minors are not allowed to loiter, idle, wander, stroll, drive or ride in an automobile, play in or upon public streets, highways, roads, alleys, parks, playgrounds or other places of amusement and entertainment, during the hours of 11:00PM and 6:00AM of the following day. On Fridays and Saturdays the curfew changes to 12:00PM to 6:00AM of the following day. It is also unlawful for parents/guardians to permit this illegal activity (210.592).
- Make an agreement to call the Creve Coeur Police Department's non-emergency number (314-737-4600) or 9-1-1 if things start to get out of control.

It may be hard to reach a mutual agreement on all issues, but working out a plan ahead of time will reduce the chances of problems arising, or things going wrong. For more information or questions, contact the Creve Coeur Crime Prevention Office at (314) 442-2075.