

KNOW THE LAW



Waconia's New Social Hosts Ordinance

Waconia has joined the majority of Minnesota cities and towns including many neighboring cities and counties that have implemented a Social Hosts Ordinance.

Social Hosts Ordinance is EFFECTIVE NOW

Waconia's Social Hosts Ordinance

specifically makes it unlawful for any person to knowingly host an event where underage persons are consuming alcohol .

The ordinance is now in effect, and the penalty for violation is a misdemeanor.

Subd. 4 Social Hosts.

- A. It is unlawful for any person to:
1. host an event or gathering;
 2. at any private or public location;
 3. where an alcoholic beverage is present;
 4. when the person knows or reasonably should know that a person under the age of twenty-one (21) will or does:
 - a. consume any alcoholic beverage; or
 - b. possess any alcohol or alcoholic beverage with the intent to consume it; and
 5. the person fails to take reasonable steps to prevent consumption or possession by persons under the age of twenty-one (21).
- B. A person is criminally responsible for violating Subd. 4, A., above if the person intentionally aids, advises, hires, counsels, or conspires with or otherwise procures another to commit the prohibited act. A person who hosts an event or gathering does not have to be present at the event or gathering to be criminally responsible.
- C. This Subd. 4 does not apply:
1. to conduct of a person under the age of twenty-one (21), which conduct is permitted by his or her parent and occurs in the parent's household;
 2. to legally protected religious observances;
 3. when a person under the age of twenty-one (21) is lawfully in possession of alcohol or alcoholic beverages during the course and scope of employment; or
 4. to the holder of a liquor license issued under Minn. Stat. §340A.503 Subd. 1(a)(1).

**Waconia Ordinance 580:
Alcoholic Beverages
Section 580.03,
Subd. 4 Social Hosts.
(Starts on page 5)**

