

PARTY SMART GUIDE

How to host a party without the fines.



University of Colorado **Boulder**

KNOW THE LAWS

CU STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

The CU Student Code of Conduct applies to all students regardless of where you live or where an offense occurred. The Code of Conduct deals with very broad issues of behavior, including ethnic, gender or racial intimidation, failure to comply with university rules or regulations, as well as criminal violations. Not only can you land in court for your behavior at a party, but you may also face sanctions from CU, including possible suspension.

ALCOHOL

It is illegal to possess or consume alcohol under the age of 21. It is a felony to provide alcohol to someone who is under 21. Penalties for serving underage individuals can include fines of up to \$1,000, court appearances and court costs, jail up to 90 days and sanctions from the CU Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution Office. Only invite people you know to your parties and always check IDs.

KEGS

If you have a keg, keep it inside. It is illegal in Boulder to have a keg on the front porch or in the yard. Retailers in Boulder have agreed to tag all purchased kegs with an ID number so that it can be traceable. Purchasers will be held responsible for any liquor infractions such as providing alcohol to minors.

LIABILITY

When hosting a party, you are liable for any damage to your rental property caused by guests and/or any ordinance violations. If you serve alcohol to an intoxicated person, or a person who is underage, you could be held liable if they get in an accident or damage a neighbor's property.

CONSUMPTION

In Colorado you are considered to be impaired and it is illegal to drive if your blood alcohol content (BAC) is 0.05% or 0.02% if you are under 21. If your BAC is 0.08% or higher, you are considered to be intoxicated.

BAC is a form of measurement used to determine the concentration of alcohol in your bloodstream and is one factor used to assess the level of an individual's intoxication. However, there are several other factors that contribute to a person's level of intoxication, such as body type, the quantity and rate of consumption, your metabolism and even how much sleep you have had. It is important to be aware that alcohol is eliminated from your body much more slowly than it is absorbed, so it is easy to accumulate a high BAC in a short period of time. Be aware of how much and how quickly you are drinking.

FIREWORKS

The possession, manufacture, storage, sale, handling and use of fireworks in Boulder are prohibited. This provision includes firecrackers, sparklers, snaps, bottle rockets, Roman candles and smoke bombs. You may also be held responsible for fireworks used by roommates and guests. If you get caught with fireworks, possible penalties include fines up to \$1,000, possible jail time, court fees, possible arson charges and personal injury damages, as well as review by CU's Office of Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution.

POLICE VISITS

Police officers have a responsibility to enforce the law. If the police show up at your door during a party, the best thing to do is to stay calm, be respectful and cooperate.

- **As the host, take responsibility by stepping outside to discuss the situation**
- **They may give you a warning and an opportunity to shut down the party on your own**
- **You can ask for assistance in shutting down the party if it's gotten out of control**
- **Your attitude is always noted on any tickets that are issued**

If you refuse to answer the door or try to hide they will likely come back the next day and issue a ticket. If you answer the door and are uncooperative, they may be inclined to issue tickets for multiple violations.

There are three main reasons why the cops will stop you or your party:

1. COMPLAINTS: If a complaint is made to dispatch, Boulder police are required to investigate. If you register your party, you may avoid police contact (assuming the complaint was noise based and there are no other violations).

2. VIOLATIONS: If police notice a violation, it is their duty to stop and address the issue. Even though it's one party, you could be violating multiple ordinances. Keep your cool with the police and you may only end up with a warning or just one ticket.

3. YOUR SAFETY: Officers will stop if they are concerned for your safety. If you are walking home after a party and the police notice that you are stumbling or acting unusual, they will stop you. If you can tell them your name, where you came from and your address, they are more likely to let you go home.

NOISE VIOLATIONS

DISRUPTION OF QUIET ENJOYMENT OF THE HOME

At any time of day, loud or unruly conduct that disrupts another person in their home is subject to a ticket.

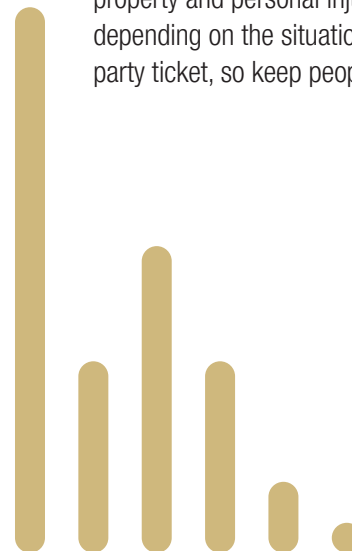
UNREASONABLE NOISE

After 11 p.m. in a residential neighborhood any music, conversation or other noise that can be heard from more than 100 feet away from your house could result in a noise ticket.

NUISANCE PARTIES

If you host or refuse to leave a party that is a nuisance to the neighborhood, you and your roommates can be subject to a nuisance party ticket. A nuisance party is a gathering of two or more people where there is a violation of one or more municipal ordinances, including any noise or alcohol/keg violations, urinating in public, littering, trespassing, etc.

Consequences include fines up to \$1,000, jail for up to 90 days, mandatory court appearance, review by CU Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution, court fees, community service, liability for property and personal injury damages and possible suspension depending on the situation. It doesn't take a lot to get a nuisance party ticket, so keep people inside and keep the noise down.



PARTY HOSTING TIPS

1. Let your neighbors know you intend to have a party and give them your phone number. It's both polite and smart to let your neighbors know they can call you, rather than the police, if they have a concern about your party.
2. Keep the noise down. The most common reason neighbors complain is because of noise which can travel far beyond your residence.
3. Provide snacks and non-alcoholic drinks. You can be ticketed by the police and sanctioned by CU's Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution office if you are serving alcohol to people who are underage.
4. Limit access to those you know. You are legally responsible for the actions of everyone at the party. If an intoxicated person leaves and ends up causing injury or death to someone else, you can be held accountable.
5. Keep the party to a reasonable size. "Reasonable" means that everyone fits in the space you have; not in the driveway or in the neighbor's yard.
6. Designate a non-drinking party host, friend or roommate to stay aware of the noise, limit access of uninvited guests and help keep the party from getting out of control.
7. Don't let guests leave with alcoholic beverages in hand. Open containers in any public space are illegal in Boulder.
8. Know the signs of alcohol poisoning and call 911 if someone needs help.
9. Clean up. If there are plastic cups, cigarette butts or other litter in your yard following a party, you may receive a trash ticket. Keep a trash can out during the party to help with disposal.

ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUG EMERGENCIES

Know the signs of alcohol poisoning. The person may:

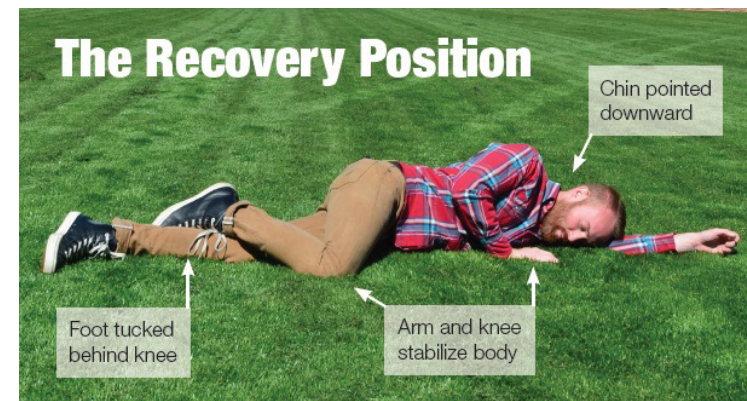
- Be passed out and unresponsive
- Have fewer than 12 breaths/minute
- Be vomiting while passed out
- Appear pale/bluish or have cool/clammy skin
- Have uncontrolled peeing or pooping

If someone shows any signs of alcohol poisoning:

- Call 911 and put them in the recovery position
- If the person may have used opiates in any form, including pain pills, administering naloxone can reverse an overdose
- Stay with the person until help arrives
- Cooperate with emergency personnel

Recovery position:

Putting someone in the recovery position will keep their airway clear and open. It also ensures that any vomit or fluid won't cause them to choke.



ABOUT OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOOD RELATIONS

Off-Campus Housing & Neighborhood Relations is a function of CU Student Government and supports approximately 25,000 CU students living off campus. Our office helps students find off-campus housing and roommates through our online rental database, Ralphie's List, and our annual housing fairs.

We also have an attorney available for free legal consultations (lease reviews, security deposit or roommate disputes, deferred maintenance, etc.). If you have any questions about off-campus living, please stop by the office. Appointments can be made with our attorney on Tuesdays and Fridays.



UMC, ROOM 313 • 303.492.7053
och@colorado.edu
offcampushousing.colorado.edu



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