Good food can make your party great! Encourage guests to eat by placing food near the beverages. For 10 people, have a couple bags of chips and 2 large pizzas.

**Legal Concerns in Washington and Tacoma**

**Hosting Parties:** As a host, you can be held liable — and can therefore be sued — for any injuries incurred during or after the party. Underaged drinking and provision of alcohol to minors are illegal and can lead to a criminal citation. When kegs are purchased, the address of the party is registered, and law enforcement has access to this information.

**Drinking and Driving:** There is zero tolerance for underage driving under the influence. You can lose your drivers licence for a minimum of one year. A legal drinker’s BAC may be less than 0.08%, but an officer may still find him/her to be impaired and can issue a DUI anyway.

**MIP:** Even legal drinkers can receive a citation for drinking in public. Those under 21 can receive a Minor In Possession citation just for being around alcohol.

**Noise:** You can be cited for “the creation of frequent, repetitive or continuous sounds...which unreasonably interfere with the peace, comfort, and repose of owners or possessors of real property, such as sounds from audio equipment, musical instruments, band sessions, or social gatherings” (Tacoma Municipal Code, 8.12.060.D).

**Exercise your prerogative to set guidelines about the use of illegal substances.** How will you handle guests who bring drugs? Be aware of your liability even if your guests have used illicit drugs before the party.
Party Planning
Tips for Planning a Successful Party
A Resource for Students Living On and Off Campus

• Planning tips
• Managing the party
• What to serve
• Neighbor Relations
• Ending the party
• Handling party crashers
• Legal liability

Alcohol Safety

Be a good spotter, and keep an eye on your friends. Watch for the signs of intoxication:
• rambling
• swaying, stumbling, or bumping into things
• talking or laughing loudly, especially when things aren’t funny
• spilling drinks
• exaggerated behaviors (i.e. good moods are better, bad moods are worse)
• difficulty focusing and maintaining eye contact
• acting aggressively or belligerently

Signs of Alcohol Poisoning
• Passed out and cannot be woken
• Slow or irregular breathing
• Cold, clammy, pale, or bluish skin
• Vomiting excessively or while passed out
• Irregular pulse – weak, rapid, or slow

Call 911 or x3311 if any signs are present. Your first concern should be your guest’s safety; emergency room staff are unlikely to call the police, because their primary concern is to save a life.

Offices and Resources

Community Development
WSC 219
879.3374
Debbie Chee

Community Relations
1314 N. Alder
879.3903
Marilyn Bailey
www.ups.edu/news/neighbors/home.htm

Counseling, Health, and Wellness Services
WSC 216
879.1555
Charee Boulter
www.ups.edu/student_life/chws/home.htm

Dean of Students
WSC 208
879.3360
Charee Boulter
www.ups.edu/student_life/home.htm

Greek Life
Stud. Dev. Office
879.3317
Kathleen Holmes
www.ups.edu/student_life/StudDev/greek.htm

Off Campus Student Services
WSC 203
879.3374
Monica Nixon
www.ups.edu/student_life/off-campushousing/

Security Services
3206 N. 15th
879.3311
www.ups.edu/security/home.htm

Student Development
WSC 208
879.3317
www.ups.edu/student_life/StudDev/sdhome.htm

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