

prevention in action

TAKING PRIDE IN OUR SCHOOLS & COMMUNITY



In honor of World No Tobacco Day, EPHS students teamed up with the EPPC and volunteered their time to pick up cigarette butts. The cleanup was scheduled to take place on June 1st after school from 2-4pm, however due to weather, it was postponed till Wednesday June 3rd.

In total, 2,456 cigarette butts were picked up from EP High School alone. The volunteers weren't able to tackle Agawam Park as originally scheduled due to the amount of debris. Cigarette butt clean-ups occurred in various cities/towns across the state at the end of May and were sponsored by the RI Department of Health and Save the Bay.



Every year 300 billion cigarette butts are sold in the United States and almost 100 billion of these are tossed into our waterways, beaches, parks and streets. Cigarette butts are non-biodegradable and are toxic to people, animals and our environment. These butts are the number one item littered in our parks and around our schools.

SAFETY FIRST: TEENAGE MILESTONES & SUMMER GATHERINGS



The social host liability law in RI is changing parents' minds as the responsibility for underage drinking moves from the teens who come consume the alcohol... to the parents who provide it.

As proms, graduation parties, end-of-school celebrations, the 4th of July, pool parties, camping trips and summer gatherings are rapidly approaching, remember that it's unsafe, illegal and irresponsible to provide alcohol to teens. Anyone who believes that it's safer for teens to drink at their home than anywhere else, and that drinking is part of growing up—a rite of passage—is sadly mistaken.

So what are some practical steps you can take to prevent youth social access?

- ⇒ Remind teens the minimum legal drinking age is 21 and drinking can cause serious health & safety consequences.
- ⇒ Keep track of alcohol in your home and keep it locked up. One tactic is taking alcohol from a bottle and replacing it with water. Ensuring teens can't get to the alcohol without your knowledge is one way of restricting access.
- ⇒ Let the police know if a noisy party is taking place for youth alcohol use is likely.
- ⇒ Thank local alcohol retailers for carding you. And if they don't check it encourage them to do so.
- ⇒ If you are a parent, make it a routine to check-in on your teen's social media sites (ie: Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc). Check pictures and posts.
- ⇒ Be frank about telling other parents that it's not okay for them to serve alcohol to your teen.
- ⇒ Lock up your prescription drugs. Restricting access to them will prevent teens from using them in combination with alcohol.
- ⇒ Reinforce with everyone that: It's unsafe, illegal and irresponsible.



Community Advocacy

Education

Training

Enforcement

Youth Programming

Data Collection

Policy Change