

HOSTING A PARTY

If you have a party, it is your responsibility to keep it under control. City ordinances prohibit loud, disorderly, drunken conduct on city streets or public places. Neighbors have rights to a peaceful environment. Violation of the [Keeping a Disorderly House](#) ordinance is a misdemeanor and can result in costly fines.

Party Smart!

- Check with your landlord about policies regarding parties
- Let your neighbors know about the party and ask them to call you with concerns
- Invite only the number of people you can accommodate.
- Consider parking issues. Do not let guests block streets or driveways
- Monitor the level of noise coming from your party
- Provide adequate trash and recycling containers
- Keep guests off crowded roofs and balconies
- If you receive calls from neighbors or the police arrive, cooperate with their requests
- Be familiar with state and local laws regarding alcohol consumption and supplying alcohol. See below.

Serving Alcohol -- What You Need to Know

- You cannot charge at the door even if you call it a cup charge.
- You cannot sell alcohol
- You cannot serve alcohol to guests under the legal drinking age of 21
- Do not allow drinking games or contests
- Limit the number of drinks served per person
- Have plenty of soft drinks/water available
- Don't drink too much yourself – you are responsible for the safety of guests
- KNOW the [signs of alcohol poisoning](#) and what action to take in an emergency
- Help people find rides home from sober drivers. Consider arranging for designated sober party guests before the party

DISCLAIMER

Information provided on this web site pertaining to tenant/landlord issues and procedures is general information about Iowa Tenant/Landlord Law. ([See Chapter 562A Uniform Residential Landlord and Tenant Law](#)) The information pertains to Iowa law. If you are viewing this site from another state you should be aware that this area of law may differ from state to state.

Before you take any action based on information from this site, please seek legal advice. Your questions and facts are specific to your case. Therefore, information on this site cannot substitute for legal advice from an attorney practicing in your jurisdiction. Again, you should consult an attorney before taking any legal action based on information found on this site.

[UNIVERSITY OF IOWA STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES](#)

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