



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY

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Newsletter Article

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Underage Drinking

As a parent, I have a lot of things that I have to think about to keep my kids safe and our family life in balance. I'm sure you do, too.

Their safety should never take the back seat – especially when it comes to the issue of underage drinking. And it begins earlier than you think. Approximately 19% of 8th graders reported drinking in a recent survey conducted by the University of Delaware. For 11th graders that number increased to 37%!

In 2009, did you know...?

- 4 teens were killed in alcohol-related crashes.
- Over 1,000 more teens were injured.
- 314 minors were arrested for DUI

Talking about alcohol use should start early, and the discussions should happen often. Not a one- time conversation, but an on-going conversation. Our friends at MADD have done all the homework for us. Go to www.madd.org/powerofparents for a free parent handbook with tips on how to talk to your kids about alcohol. And for more information about Underage Drinking in Delaware, go to www.ohs.delaware.gov/underagedrinking.

Under 21? Think Don't Drink. Arrive Alive DE.