

LOCUST VALLEY FIRE DEPARTMENT – PUBLIC SAFETY TIPS



Prom Night Safety

Tips for Parents:

- Know and discuss the School code of conduct before the prom with your child.
- Does the school code of conduct extend to off-site functions that have been approved by the school?
- Know who your child is attending the prom with and discuss the events for pre and post prom parties with other parents.
- Discuss the dangers of drinking and driving. New York State law mandates arrest and license revocation/suspension of any person under twenty-one driving with .02% or more Blood Alcohol Content (One Drink!)
- Talk with your child about the dangers of club drugs, warning signs and who to notify for assistance.
- Pre-plan and role-play answers that your child can use to get out of uncomfortable situations (e.g. offered alcohol, getting a ride from an intoxicated driver, unwanted sexual advances, etc.)
- Discuss guidelines and a curfew. Discuss the consequences of violating these rules.
- Discuss travel plans, use a reputable limousine service that will not allow a person to bring, serve or introduce alcohol into the vehicle.
- Know who is driving to the prom and who will be a passenger. Limit the number of passengers to increase safety and reduce driver distractions.
- Know the location of post prom parties and who is sponsoring them.
- Talk to your teenager about the serious dangers and consequences of underage drinking and driving.
- If your child's plans change, confirm the change with the parents of other children.
- Remind your child that you are there for them, if they need a ride home or to an after prom affair.

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Tips for Teens:

- Alcohol is illegal for persons under the age of twenty-one. Underage drinking is illegal and can result in arrest, injury, or worse.
- Don't let friends drink and drive.
- Plan ahead – make sure you have a safe plan for prom night.
- Discuss your plans with your friends; remind each other about responsible decision-making and confronting peer pressure.
- Do not accept any drinks from someone you do not know. If you leave your drink, discard it and get a new one.
- Do not leave your possessions unattended.
- Learn the warning signs for alcohol poisoning and drug intoxication, contact 911 for assistance and immediate treatment.
- Take extra money or have a responsible person available for transportation for a safe ride home or in case an emergency arises.
- Remember to charge your cell phone and have it with you.
- Know where you are and where you are going; keep your parents and friends informed.
- Trust your instincts, if you feel endangered or uncomfortable, leave immediately.
- Intoxication by alcohol or drugs can lead to poor judgment and dangerous situations.
- Remember to contact your parents if your plans change.
- Practice and discuss answers you can use to get out of uncomfortable situations.
- Do not allow anyone in your car or limo that has drugs or weapons. It is dangerous and everyone in the car is at risk of getting arrested.
- It is illegal to alter your drivers' license or any other form of government identifications.