Party Hosting
Check out these tips and advice on how to throw a fun, safe party.

Talk to your neighbors: Talking to your neighbors before and after your party can make everyone happier. They can call you and not the police if people are being too loud.

Provide food: Eating before, during, and after drinking can help keep people from drinking too much and not having fun.

Provide non-alcoholic drinks: By providing non-alcoholic drinks, you welcome all your friends to the party. Alternating alcoholic with non-alcoholic drinks also helps keep people from drinking too much so they can have fun.

Keep your party legal: Find a way to mark people who are of age to drink, turn people away who are drunk, and don’t serve people who are under 21. You are legally responsible for people during and after your party, so protect yourself.

Bouncer, Bartender, Sober host: A bouncer can regulate the party for who gets in, how noisy things get, and help people leave safely. A bartender can regulate the alcohol. A sober host can keep non-alcoholic beverages stocked, and talk to neighbors and police if needed.

Clean up: Pick up any trash on your lawn, and check-in with your neighbors.

Laws and Fines
Serving and/or selling alcohol to minors: $500-$2000
Minor in Possession: $150
Public urination/defecation: $50-$500
Open container: $50
Misrepresenting age: Diversion or $300
Burlington Noise Ordinance: $500 for lease holders, and 3rd offense is criminal. Police patrols occur throughout the year. Burlington Police Department reports municipal and arrest violations to UVM, so off-campus violations may have on-campus conduct effects.
Most UVM students sometimes or always don’t drink when they go to a party. You can go to a party and drink soda or water and will be in good company. If you are feeling highly emotional, physically ill, or just stressed out, drinking can make things worse.

Sound travels far and fast; talk quietly when walking around downtown.

If you are at a party and things are going badly, call or text 802.363. TIPS (8477) to leave anonymous information with the Chittenden County Sheriff.

If you see someone acting sketchy, you can do something. Ask the person/people to stop, distract them with random information, tell other people, call the police.

If you choose to drink at a party:
Alternate alcoholic with non-alcoholic drinks: This helps prevent being too intoxicated too quickly (a.k.a. getting the most out of drinking)

Eat before and during drinking: This can slow the absorption of food and help you stay within your limits.

Avoid pre-gaming, doing shots, and drinking games: All of these often lead to dangerously high blood alcohol concentration, increasing vulnerability to violence, and other problems.

Avoid mixing alcohol with other drugs: Mixing even small amounts of alcohol and other drugs can be medically extremely dangerous.