

## Article 14

### Social Host Responsibility By-Law

The Walpole Coalition for Alcohol and Drug Awareness is a volunteer group in Town made up of Parents, Businesses, Selectmen, School Committee Members, Police Officers, and Personnel from Schools, Recreation and the Health Departments. Our mission is to prolong the onset of alcohol and illicit drug use among Walpole youth.

We have been meeting to discuss the issues surrounding this community problem for several years to try and make a difference for our youth in Walpole. We have adopted a three prong approach to reach our mission; educate youth and parents about the problem, provide activities that is alcohol and drug free for our youth, and make sure that as a community we set up rules and regulations to protect Walpole youth from accessing alcohol and drugs.

About a year ago, the Coalition asked for volunteers to be on an enforcement subcommittee to look into regulations for alcohol license holders for the Selectmen to adopt. We have drafted those regulations, making changes we received from the full Coalition and also from the license holders in Town. The Selectmen will be looking at these draft regulations and holding their own hearing before they choose to adopt them or adopt part of them.

One thing, that was loud and clear from working on those regulations, is why isn't the Coalition working on Regulations/By-Law to stop the underage parties in this community? Underage drinking parties seem to be a bigger problem in the Town of Walpole. So the Subcommittee researched other communities, worked with an attorney from the Mass Municipal Association, and drafted the Social Host Responsibility By-Law. Basically the Coalition finds that persons under the age of twenty-one often obtain alcoholic beverages or drugs at such gatherings and that persons who rent, own or otherwise control the premises at which such service and/or consumption is occurring will be more likely to ensure that alcoholic beverages and drugs are neither served to nor consumed by persons under the age of twenty-one at these gatherings when there are potential penalties for violations.

We hope that families will start talking about why youth should not be drinking and taking illicit drugs, what damage it can cause and what penalties families can occur. This By-law will give Walpole Police just one more tool they may choose to use for repeat offenders.

**Reported by Deputy Chief Carmichael**

**To the Walpole Coalition for Alcohol and Drug Awareness**

**Situational Awareness – Walpole Drug Issues- 2013**

**Overdoses:** Walpole experienced less overall overdoses in 2012, compared to 2011, which may be attributed to Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTO) modifying the purity of their heroin; education and more timely administration of Naloxne - (Narcan) by family members and first responders, education of the hazards of being released from rehab or incarceration and the likelihood of overdosing with diminished tolerance and the drug take back of narcotic pharmaceuticals. In 2012 we also began tracking Warrants of Apprehension (WOA) or involuntary drug commitments. In 2012 we had (6) involuntary commitments for treatment and also use this mechanism to educate families of addicts to get their loved one intervention. So far in 2013, we have assisted with (6) WOA and referred numerous others. Officers continue to work proactively in educating families on the intervention provided by section 35.

Note: Overdoses differentiate between Opiate abuse and Poly-Drug Use which is multiple drug use such as alcohol and pharmaceuticals and/or other drugs such as a cocaine induced OD. Opiate OD includes heroin and opiate based pharmaceuticals.

Year	Opiate OD	Poly Drug	Non-Fatal	Fatal	Narcan Save	Total OD
2011	10	7	12	5	3	17
2012	4	6	8	2	2	10
2013 JAN-OCT	8	3	9	<b>4 total</b> 1-Opiate 2-Alcohol 1-Alcohol- Lorazepam	6	13

**Summary:** Of the 13 overdoses experienced in Walpole, 4 resulted in fatalities; however, only one fatality was due to opiate abuse. The remaining three were alcohol induced and one alcohol/Lorazepam induced. Three of the overdoses were poly-drug abuse and included crack cocaine (2) and Adderall (1).

**OUI:** There have been 18 OUI Arrests and 43 protective custodies.

**Underage:** There have been 14 separate incidents involving underage drinking incidents. There have been 49 individuals less than 21 charged with possession.

**Syringes:** Another trend we have experienced over the past couple of years is the discarding of syringes by users on public ways and sidewalks. While we cannot discern if this is due to intravenous drug use or medical issues, experience tells us this is attributed to illicit drug use. We started tracking this trend in 2011 and 2012. In 2011 officers recovered **(8)** syringes on Walpole streets and sidewalks and **(20)** in 2012. Officers have been provided a crime map of these incidents to monitor the cause and attempt to identify users. So far in 2013, officers have retrieved **(20)** syringes on the public ways of Walpole.

**Drug Take Back 2013:** Approximately 100lbs being brought in every couple of months.

**Drug Treatment Episodes:**

**Residents of the Town of Walpole = Alcohol 65%, Heroin 37%, Marijuana = 20%**

Total Number of Admissions: 17  
**Residents of the Town of Walpole**  
Total Number of Admissions: 171

**Town Percent vs. State Percent**

**Gender**

Female 33% 31%

Male 67% 69%

**Race**

Multi-racial \* 2%

Other \* 10%

White 96% 80%

**Hispanic Ethnicity**

Hispanic \* 11%

**Age**

Under 21 11% 7%

21-29 27% 35%

30-49 43% 45%

50 and Older 18% 13%

**Substance Use in Past Year**

Alcohol 65% 55%

Cocaine 12% 22%

Crack 5% 12%

Heroin 37% 46%

Marijuana 20% 24%

Other Opiates 7% 13%

IDU 35% 41%

Submitted October 7, 2013