



SMART SERVE ONTARIO

Southwest Middlesex is a supporter of Smart Serve Ontario. We have recently purchased a Smart Serve Training Video and training will be offered to groups wishing to obtain certification under this program.

Smart Serve offers the following tips for planning a special event.

In planning your special event, it's important to make sure that drinking alcohol is not the main activity. Serve food and snacks to slow the absorption of alcohol.

Here are some other things you can do to make sure your event is safe and enjoyable for employees and guests.

- Allow only designated Smart Serve trained staff to pour and serve drinks. Do not allow guests and employees to serve themselves.
- Ensure that the bar, or area where drinks are being served, is secure and that only authorized persons have access.
- Make sure there are sufficient snacks and food available, and avoid serving a lot of salty snacks.
- Provide tasty non-alcoholic beverages for guests to drink. And if you're serving an alcoholic punch, use non-carbonated beverages.
- Stop serving alcohol at least an hour before your event ends.
- Promote the concept of responsible consumption by posting signs stating that guests will not be over-served.
- Arrange for safe transportation home. Never let guests drink and drive.
- Visit their website www.smartserve.ca for other ideas that will help you have a safe and successful event.

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