

LEAVERS What is it? How has it Evolved?



'Leavers' happens each year when young people finish high school and they gather together to celebrate and relax...

Crowd numbers increased and anti-social behaviour was evident with violence, street drinking and damage to public property. Effective crowd control was difficult, clean up costs were approx \$23,000, there were 171 arrests, 4000 young people gathered in the Lions Park for up to 2 weeks (uncontained)

2000 - 04

2005

First Leavers Zone

2006

4000 Leavers attended the Leavers Zone (contained)

2007

4863 wristbands were sold, clean up costs were approx. \$11,500 and there were 19 arrests

2008

5400 wristbands were sold, clean up costs were approx. \$9,505 and there were 15 arrests

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT IN 2009?

Most Leavers will be around during 23 - 27 November 2009. Some Leavers will be in the area before and after these dates. During this time you might see:

- A Leavers only entertainment zone (fenced area with marquees, entertainment and live music) that is open 7.00pm - 1.00am Monday 23 – Thursday 26 November
- Leavers only buses travelling regularly between Busselton, Dunsborough, Yallingup and the Leavers zone for Monday 23 – Thursday 26 November
- More Police in the area between Friday 20 and Sunday 29 November. This will include Police on foot patrol, mounted Police, police stops for licence checks and random breath tests etc.
- More young people (aged about 17) in the towns, at accommodation places, at the beach and local entertainment areas
- Support workers such as St John's Ambulance, Baptist Churches WA, Royal Surf Life Saving, WA AIDS Council, Drug Arm WA, Red Frog Crew and volunteers
- A ticket sales booth in Lions Park Dunsborough selling Leavers only wristbands between Sunday 22 and Thursday 26 November



Thinking about loaning a house to a Leaver - READ THIS FIRST!

We know that approximately 1600 Leavers stay in private accommodation each year. Private accommodation does cause concerns about risk management for Leavers and the local community.

We understand that people lend holiday houses to family and friends. We would like to let you know that there can be issues with doing this. Leavers is a time when young people take risks that normally they would not.

Most commercial accommodation providers have experience with hosting Leavers and take steps to keep Leavers and the community happy and safe (support agencies staying at the accommodation, security in place, policies around not having extra people coming to the accommodation after a certain time, drug and alcohol free premises etc).

Leavers that stay in private accommodation may come across some issues, including:

- Too many people coming to the house and parties getting out of control
- A lack of help from support agencies when there is trouble
- Alcohol and other drugs being used by young people

These concerns:

- Can put young people at risk and upset them when their Leavers ends in regret
- Stretch local resources when dealing with situations that may arise
- And very importantly, the neighbours that keep an eye on your property for the year when you are not there become upset by the week or two of young people partying, loud music, rude behaviour in the street and Police visits

FYI

To date more than \$123,000 has been donated back to Dunsborough community groups through the Leavers Community Appreciation Fund



Before you loan a house to a group of young people give it a lot of thought...Have steps in place to deal with issues

WHO CAN YOU CONTACT ABOUT LEAVERS?

www.leaverswa.com.au

ABOUT LEAVERS **9781 0496**

EMERGENCIES **000**

POLICE 24 HRS **9781 3030** Dunsborough
9754 9555 Busselton

HOSPITAL **9754 0333**

RANGERS 24 HRS **9781 0444**



MORE INFORMATION

To view the full reports about Leavers in the Dunsborough area visit our website – www.busselton.wa.gov.au or contact the Shire Office on (08) 9781 0444