



Welcome Parents

If your child is soon to enter the Driver's Educational Program or has received his/her provisional license, the following Parent-Teen Driving Agreement may be a useful tool for you to enforce household guidelines or restrictions. As a parent, we all know that our teenagers can't wait to get their driver's license. It is their first big step toward independence from parents and the day-to-day chauffeuring or interference of their privacy. Your child should realize that a driver's license is only a privilege offered by the State of Rhode Island and controlled by you as a parent. Teenagers do not have a constitutional right to use this license and that at your discretion, it can be removed from them for any violation of your household rules.

Using information from the *First Edition of Teen Driver Magazine, a Family Guide to Teen Driver Safety*, sponsored by the National Safety Council, I have adopted their recommendation of the Parent-Teen Driving Agreement. This agreement is a written document that defines your restrictions or rules and the consequences for violating these rules. As a parent, we know that guidelines are set in place to enhance the safety of our children. This written agreement between you and your teenager also sets the expectations from the start and I recommend that you sign it as well as your teenager, date it, and place it on the refrigerator for quick reference. These rules or guidelines, if violated, should be followed up immediately with your predefined consequences which are listed at the right hand of this document.

If your child is not eligible to drive, a check box for other consequences is available, such as being grounded, lack of use of the computer, cellular phone, internet, and television, etc.

I hope this document will be a useful tool for you and your teenager to ensure their personal safety while guaranteeing that your guidelines are followed. I wish all of you the best of luck during this new and challenging endeavor.

Sincerely,

John M. LaCross
Chief of Police

TEENAGE CURFEWS: Does The Town have curfews for our teenagers? This question has been asked several times in the past and the answer is no. To unify a curfew system among parents, it is recommended that a simple time limit be considered that is set by their grade level.

If your teen is in the	9 th Grade the curfew is 9:00 PM
”	10 th Grade the curfew is 10:00 PM
	11 th Grade the curfew is 11:00 PM
	12 th Grade the curfew is 12:00 Midnight