



Put In Your 2¢ Worth...

About 2¢ a drink yields \$44 million annually to reduce the impact of alcohol problems in Missouri.

Question:

Sometimes we hear people talk about “beer and alcohol.” Isn’t that phrase based on ignorance about the alcoholic content of various intoxicating beverages and their effects?

Answer:

Yes, it is another example of either (a) inaccurate use of language and/or (b) inadequate public knowledge about alcohol. In simple terms: alcohol is alcohol is alcohol, whether it is in beer, wine or spirits.

MISSOURI ALCOHOL IMPACT FACT #53

- Standard servings of beer, wine and spirits -- a 12-ounce can of beer, a 5-ounce glass of table wine and a cocktail with 1-1/2 ounces of 80-proof spirits – all contain the same amount of absolute or pure alcohol: 14 grams (about 0.6 fluid ounces).



- Other “equivalencies,” which have the same 14 grams of pure alcohol, are:
 - 8.5 oz. of malt liquor
 - 3-4 oz. of fortified wine
 - 2-3 oz. of cordial, liqueur, or aperitif
 - 1.5 oz. of brandy
- The U.S. Depts. of Health and Human Services, Agriculture, Transportation and Education, the Natl. Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, MADD, and the Natl. Alcohol Beverage Control Assn. all measure beverage alcohol equivalency the same way.

Sources: Distilled Spirits Council of the United States, 1997; Helping Patients With Alcohol Problems: A Health Practitioner’s Guide, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, NIH Publication No- 03-3769, January, 2003.

For more information call one of the Missouri’s Alcohol Impact Coalition members below:

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