Frequently Asked Questions about the restriction on open containers of alcohol:

**What has changed from the old policy?**

Wesleyan’s open container policy was modified in order to be clearer about where it is permissible to consume alcohol and to address the issues associated with drinking in public. The new policy language, which is below, can be found in Regulation 13e of the CNAC:

> Possession of open containers of alcohol is prohibited at all times and at all campus locations, except in private residential settings where the residents are of legal age or during registered events. In addition, the possession or consumption of alcohol on City property, streets and sidewalks is prohibited by City ordinance. (Note: Members of the Wesleyan community who are of legal drinking age may consume alcohol on Foss Hill during daylight hours.)

The intent of the policy is not to prevent those of legal age from drinking responsibly, but to reduce the amount of alcohol being consumed while moving from event to event in the evenings.

**Does this policy apply to me, even if I am over 21?**

Wesleyan’s alcohol policies apply to all members of the Wesleyan community. The policy is consistent with state and local laws; the State of Connecticut prohibits possession or consumption of alcohol by anyone under the age of 21 years old. By ordinance, the City of Middletown restricts possession of alcohol on city streets and sidewalks. The addition to the policy at the end of last semester extends the existing open container regulation to the public spaces on campus with some exceptions.

**What are the exceptions?**

The exception which will have the most impact on student life is that students who are 21 or older will be able to consume alcohol on Foss Hill during daylight hours. Other exceptions will be made for 21 year olds at registered events and specific events on campus. Events can be registered through Student Activities at www.wesleyan.edu/stuact

**Does the Foss Hill exception include all the residence hall areas on the top of Foss Hill?**

The Foss Hill exception, which is specific to the hill facing Andrus field, was made to allow students who are of legal age to drink responsibly in a central campus location. The exception is from sunrise until sunset.

**Is Foss Hill the only place students can drink outside?**

Students who are 21 or older can continue to consume alcohol in the backyards adjacent to their wood frame houses, day or night, presuming they comply with the social event registration process if there are more than 50 people.

**Can I walk from my wood frame to my friend’s apartment down the street while drinking a beer?**

Middletown’s ordinance prohibits you from drinking on city streets/sidewalks and Wesleyan’s policy prohibits open containers in public across campus.

**Can I bring my alcohol with me to my residence hall lounge or down the hall to my friend’s room?**

The new policy states that alcohol can only be consumed in “private residential settings”; if you are in a common space such as a hallway, lounge, or courtyard, you should not be consuming alcohol.

**I am 21 and want to visit my friend’s residence hall, can I bring alcohol with me?**

You should not be bringing alcohol into first and second year residence halls unless you are 21 and live there or you are of legal age and you are visiting a 21 year old who lives there.