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Congratulations Country Jam on 100% Compliance!

Eau Claire, Wisconsin – July 27, 2016. People have come to know that they'll hear great music and enjoy fun times at the Country Jam music festival. Now the community can also depend on Jam's commitment to prevent underage drinking.

The Eau Claire City-County Health Department has conducted compliance checks at Country Jam since 2006. **This year we congratulate Country Jam for achieving 100% compliance!** After a great deal of dedicated work, this is the first year that NO sales were made to any underage buyers during compliance checks at the festival.

This year, Country Jam hired an outside company to manage all food and beverage sales for the festival. "The standards of practice for serving alcohol at the event were excellent," said Rachael Manning, Coalition Facilitator with the Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention. "There were clear alcohol policies and procedures in place to help reduce underage drinking."

Country Jam, the Sheriff's Department, and the Alliance have worked together over the past 10 years to decrease youth access to alcohol at the event. Compliance during checks has consistently increased since 2006 from 33% to 96% to 100%. Partnerships between all of these organizations were the key to this great success. "This was the best collaborative effort I've seen yet," said Deb Tackmann, Compliance Check Supervisor at the Eau Claire City-County Health Department.

Country Jam has adopted new practices that strengthen their "no tolerance" policy for underage drinking, and have helped prevent underage youth from getting alcohol.

"We want to commend and say thank-you to Country Jam staff for their cooperation with the compliance check process," said Lt. Cory Schalinske from the Eau Claire County Sheriff's Department. "It is obvious they understand the dangers and effects of underage drinking. This is what we strived for through this community partnership - to work toward a zero tolerance policy that ensures the health and safety of individuals."

"Country Jam has worked hard alongside the Eau Claire County Law Enforcement team and the Alliance to minimize the amount of underage serving and drinking at our event. Together we can all take a lot of pride in knowing we reached our goal in 2016 in passing 100% of our compliance checks," said Country Jam President, Jim Bischel.

Thanks to dedicated work by many, country Jam has become a safer event for everyone!

