



Business after Hours

Planning Guide

What's a BAH?

Mission of the Business after Hours:

To provide Chamber members with a networking opportunity to increase knowledge and awareness of their products and services and those of other Chamber members.

Interested in promoting your business to fellow Chamber members? Why not have a Business after Hours?

A Business after Hours (BAH) is an open-house-type gathering, held at your business, usually from 5 to 7 p.m. on the second Thursday of the month.

BAH's are held for a number of reasons: A newly opened business, a new or remodeled facility, new managers or CEO's who want to meet the business community, or just networking with fellow Chamber members.

BAH Fact Sheet

- BAH's are held on the second Thursday of each month from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- If you feel that your business is not big enough to have its own BAH, you can co-host a BAH with another Chamber member business. You may also hold a BAH at a different facility if you do not have enough room at your business to accommodate at least 50 people.
- The hosting business is required to provide some type of appetizers and drinks (alcohol is optional). This can range from just soft drinks, snacks and hors d'oeuvres to alcoholic beverages and a buffet or outdoor barbecue. Some businesses have even provided live musical entertainment during their BAH's. The options are endless so please feel free to be as creative as you would like!
- **The Chamber encourages you to send out invitations to your clientele and business partners. We will send emails out promoting your BAH starting two weeks prior to your event.**
- The Chamber Ambassadors can help at your BAH by greeting visitors, serving refreshments, guiding guests around the facility, or other tasks that you may need.
- If you would like more information about having a BAH, call Monica at the Chamber, 419-332-1591. It is a good idea to call us first when you are deciding when to have it so we can check our calendar and make sure no one else has a BAH or other activity planned that could conflict with your event.
- The Chamber encourages you to provide a door prize(s) as we will also provide door prizes (this will be either products and/or gift certificates from other Chamber member businesses.)
- BAH dates will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. **Businesses are not permitted to book a BAH in consecutive years.**

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Ideas for BAH Themes

You do not have to have a theme for your BAH ~ just featuring your business is enough! However, if you want to have a theme, here are some ideas.

Consider the time of year or a holiday that is being celebrated during the month of your BAH.

- Valentine's Day
- St. Patrick's Day
- Mardi Gras
- Spring/Easter
- Chinese New Year
- Cinco de Mayo/Fiesta
- Patriotic
- Outdoor picnic or barbecue (summer)
- Ice cream social
- Fall/Harvest
- Oktoberfest
- Halloween
- Christmas
- Winter
- Luau/Tropical theme
- Sports theme (football, baseball, basketball, car racing, etc.)
- Western theme
- Vegas theme
- Rock 'n Roll/any era
- Nationality theme/food (Italian, Mexican, etc.)

Legality with Serving Alcohol

from Division of Liquor Control

Some businesses choose to serve wine, beer or alcohol at their Business After Hours functions. There are several issues to remember if your business decides to do this.

Open Bar

In this scenario, attendees are considered guests. You may serve whatever you wish with no liquor license. Remember, your business does have liability associated with serving alcohol, just as hosts are liable if alcohol is served in the home to guests.

Cash Bar

If your business chooses to charge for alcohol, a one-day license must be obtained. Applications are made to the Division of Liquor Control. See below for information on how to apply.

How to contact the Division of Liquor Control

For further information about serving alcohol, please contact the Division of Liquor Control at 614-644-2431 or refer to their web site for on-line forms and information at: www.com.ohio.gov/liqr/