OFF-CAMPUS LIVING AT IOWA

Living off-campus is a fun and exciting time but holds extra responsibilities for you and your roommates.

A wide variety of people enjoy living in the neighborhoods of Iowa City near campus including undergraduate, and graduate and professional students, young families with small children, working professionals, and senior citizens.

Enclosed are some tips and information to help you balance having a good time with being a good neighbor.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT LIVING OFF-CAMPUS:

City of Iowa City
www.icgov.org

UI Off-Campus Housing Service
offcampushousing.uiowa.edu
Property Listings
Tenant Information
Community Services
Health & Safety
Financial Resources
Things To Do

Student Legal Services
legal.studentlife.uiowa.edu
SIMPLE KEYS TO BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR

GET TO KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS
A simple hello will go a long way. The connections you make with your neighbors can provide friendships, safety, security and even job leads! Problems or issues that arise later will be easier to resolve if you start by simply getting acquainted.

BE CONSIDERATE
Your neighbors may have different schedules and lifestyles from yours. Be considerate of things like excessive noise, parking only in designated areas, and cleanliness.

KEEP IT BEAUTIFUL
No one wants to live in a messy neighborhood. Dispose of trash in appropriate receptacles and don’t use indoor furniture outdoors.

BE A RESPONSIBLE PET OWNER
Although it may be tempting to add a pet to your new off-campus home, before doing so, consider that you are likely to move frequently over the next few years or you may want to travel or study abroad. Many landlords do not allow pets and not all pets are appropriate for all types of housing which can make it difficult to find decent places to live. If you have a pet, be sure to clean up after your pet while on walks and in your own yard. Obey leash laws. Cats must be kept indoors in Iowa City.

IF HOSTING A PARTY...

There are a few things to keep in mind if you entertain friends and family in your home so everyone stays safe and you don’t receive complaints from your neighbors:

Inform your neighbors if you’re having a party. They will be more supportive if they are not surprised.

Invite only the number of people you can accommodate. Be wary of open invitations. You may get more than you bargained for. When the crowd gets too big, noise and control can quickly become a problem.

Keep in mind that if you are outside, there is a greater potential for problems. Your neighbors may have to work or go to class early or have young children and don’t want loud conversation or music outside their bedroom window.

For more information:
https://legal.studentlife.uiowa.edu/protect-your-future/

SOME CONSEQUENCES TO KEEP IN MIND:

*In addition to the fines, all of these charges create a permanent criminal record that will have to be disclosed on future job applications.

PAULA $330 for first offense $734 for second or subsequent offenses

DISORDERLY HOUSE
Minimum of $147.50 or up to $903.75

OPEN CONTAINER $127.50 $195 if in a vehicle

SELLING ALCOHOL WITHOUT A PERMIT
$485.25 or up to $1410
You cannot charge at the door—even if you call it a “cup charge” or “voluntary donation”

PROVIDING ALCOHOL TO MINORS $735 or up to a class D felony

PUBLIC URINATION $127.50

NUISANCE PROPERTY ORDINANCE
A “nuisance property” is a house that frequently causes problems for its neighbors due to criminal activity such as disorderly house or code violations. If you are identified as a nuisance property, you will be required to attend a compliance meeting with City officials and your landlord. This could cause you to be evicted and/or your landlord to lose his/her rental permit.

Take precautions against dangerous drinking by your guests. Monitor your guests to ensure they are not drinking too much or too quickly. As the host of your party, you are responsible for the welfare of your guests.

Call for help if you see someone in trouble. The University of Iowa has a Responsible Action Protocol (sometimes referred to as a Good Samaritan Policy) so don’t hesitate to call 911 if you see someone showing any of these signs:

• ANY trouble breathing
• Unconscious or unresponsive
• Vomiting related to drug ingestion
• Vomiting Blood
• Any injury with intoxication
• Disorientation or stupor, panic
• Convulsions
• Unable to stand/walk without help
• Bluish, cold, or clammy skin (or bluish lips)

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