OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES AND COLLABORATION

OFF-CAMPUS LIVING GUIDE

A BUCKEYE’S GUIDE TO LIVING OFF-CAMPUS

Living off-campus can be a fun and exciting experience for you during your time at The Ohio State University. Along with the enjoyment of living off-campus comes the responsibility of being a good tenant, roommate, neighbor and citizen in your community.

This Off-Campus Living Guide is designed to outline the steps, as well as the resources, to help you have a positive off-campus living experience. Living off-campus—whether it’s a short walk to Ohio State (the University District) or driving distance—doesn’t mean you should be any less involved with campus activities and organizations. We strongly urge all students to stay involved throughout their entire college career.

NSC works with students, permanent residents, local area landlords, University officials, local municipal representatives and various other community stakeholders to promote a positive quality of life in the University District and Columbus areas. NSC works towards educating students on the basics of off-campus living, important life skills, how to stay safe, party safe and be a responsible neighbor and Buckeye in the community.

Utilize this Off-Campus Living Guide to answer your off-campus housing questions, to learn how the University and City are here to support you and to understand your rights and responsibilities as an off-campus resident.

No matter where you live, let NSC be part of your off-campus living experience!
**OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE**

- Neighborhood Services and Collaboration
- Off-Campus Housing Excellence Program
- Off-Campus and Commuter Student Engagement

**FINDING OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING**

- Becoming Familiar with Columbus
- Becoming Familiar with Campus
- Roommates 101
- The Search for Off-Campus Housing
- How to Inspect a Property
- Who is Student Legal Services?
- What to Expect when Signing a Lease

**LIVING OFF-CAMPUS**

- How to Prepare for Your Move Off-Campus
- Trash Talk
- Stay Safe, Play Safe
- Rights and Responsibilities
- Party Safe
- Stay Healthy
- The Basics
- Get Involved
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NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES AND COLLABORATION

Student Life’s Neighborhood Services and Collaboration (NSC) oversees and supports various programs/initiatives with the mission to improve the quality of life for those living in and around the University District/Columbus areas. NSC engages students, landlords, businesses, City officials and university personnel to be actively involved in addressing the unique concerns of this diverse community. NSC believes knowledge is key, working to educate students and providing the necessary tools to promote a positive off-campus living experience. Regardless of where students choose to live, NSC works to keep you safe, engaged and informed.

Online Services

Housing Search
Neighborhood Services and Collaboration works closely with local area landlords to better serve the Ohio State community. Landlords post their rental property information on the online housing search, found at offcampus.osu.edu. Please keep in mind landlords and/or properties displayed on this online housing search are not University endorsed or approved. NSC serves as a resource center, providing information to assist students, faculty and staff in locating off-campus housing. In addition, NSC works to inform students and provide them with tips and tools to living off-campus.

Roommate Search
NSC offers a central platform to assist the Ohio State community in their off-campus roommate search. The online roommate search requires a University username and password to protect the privacy of its users. Users may browse the online roommate search as well as post a roommate ad. Roommate ads allow individuals to describe not only the type of housing they have (or are seeking), but also the type of roommate(s) they are seeking.

Sublet Search
Assisting students in subleasing their vacant apartment/house is another service provided through NSC. Students who are looking to find others to take over their lease have the option of posting an online sublet ad, which will then be displayed on the off-campus housing search.
OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

Students with concerns about off-campus safety, security and costs can take advantage of Student Life’s Off-Campus Housing Excellence Program.

The Off-Campus Housing Excellence Program is an innovative and comprehensive Student Life initiative designed to improve the quality of off-campus life, enhance the University District and create an extraordinary off-campus experience for students.

Student Life has partnered with the Columbus Division of Fire to assess the safety, security and sustainability of off-campus housing in the University area through free in-home visits.

During each home visit, Student Life and Columbus Fire Department representatives will answer questions and assess individual rental units and properties based on criteria created in collaboration with students, parents, property owners and City and University officials.

By focusing on safety, security and sustainability, Student Life aims to enhance the quality and amount of information available to students moving off-campus. Information about past home visits is available through the Housing Search on offcampus.osu.edu.

Any Ohio State University student renting property in the University area can request a home visit. If you are interested in scheduling a home visit, visit offcampus.osu.edu and select the best time and date that works for you.

Events for Students

Off-Campus Housing Fair
The annual Off-Campus Housing Fair is a great opportunity for individuals to experience a one-stop shop. Attendees can gather information from landlords, businesses, various Ohio State departments and other off-campus entities in order to make informed decisions regarding off-campus housing. In addition, a number of generous vendors donate and/or sponsor great prizes for the raffle. The 2014 Off-Campus Housing Fair will be held November 20 and November 21, 2014 in the Performance Hall of the Ohio Union from noon to 5 p.m. each day.

Roommate Fairs
NSC holds at least one roommate fair each semester. The roommate fair provides students the opportunity to meet with potential roommates face-to-face in a safe and informal environment. Roommate fairs are typically held on Friday evenings from 5p.m. to 6p.m. Check out the online calendar for future dates at offcampus.osu.edu.

City Parking Permit Sales
The City of Columbus sells City Parking Permits in 3106 Ohio Union at the beginning of each academic year. Stop by August 20–22 and 26–29, 2014 from 10a.m.–12:30p.m and 1:30p.m.–4:00p.m. to purchase your parking permit.

Around the Neighborhood

Outreach
NSC believes in building strong relationships with our community members. Working closely with the Columbus Police Department and Fire Department, Ohio State Police, landlords, permanent residents and local area businesses is a vital aspect of being part of this community. NSC is heavily involved in community meetings, organizations and initiatives to ensure students and community partners are engaged and connected. Being a good neighbor and a responsible citizen are important aspects of being a Buckeye!

Safety
NSC works relentlessly to ensure students stay safe and party safe. From providing free safety devices to monitoring the off-campus neighborhoods, NSC is here to support you. NSC Senior Director, Willie Young, can be found walking and driving the University District neighborhoods throughout the week and on the weekends, building positive relationships with our off-campus students and offering advice on any safety concerns he may see along the way. An added bonus—if you’re a trivia buff, Willie Young is your man! He loves challenging students with his vast array of trivia knowledge.

Along with NSC, there are many Student Life departments that work to support you during your off-campus living experience.
OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING EXCELLENCE PROGRAM

SCHEDULE YOUR FREE HOME VISIT TODAY.

ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT SAFETY, SECURITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY OFF-CAMPUS?

Ohio State students can request a FREE home visit through Student Life’s Off-Campus Housing Excellence Program.

Student Life’s program coordinator and a firefighter from the Columbus Fire Department will meet you at your home to assess the safety, security and environmental sustainability of your off-campus rental property and answer your questions.

To learn more about the Off-Campus Housing Excellence Program and how the program is improving the quality of off-campus life, visit offcampus.osu.edu

OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES AND COLLABORATION offcampus.osu.edu

The Ohio State University
Visit us at studentlife.osu.edu to see all the ways we are committed to student success and creating the extraordinary student experience.
OFF-CAMPUS AND COMMUTER STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Student Life’s Off-Campus and Commuter Student Engagement (OCCSE) helps off-campus and commuter students build stronger connections to their neighborhood community and to campus. OCCSE focuses on building community through the Community Ambassador and Commuter Liaison programs.

Do you live in the University District?

The Community Ambassador program is a student-led initiative aimed at promoting a safer, more collaborative community in the University District. Community Ambassadors (CAs) act as a resource and a point of contact for students living on their street. As a group, CAs plan activities throughout the year for the greater campus community. These activities engage both individual streets and the entire off-campus area and are aimed at creating a stronger off-campus community. To find the CA for your neighborhood, visit offcampus.osu.edu.

Upcoming community events

Off-Campus Community Cookouts
Community Ambassadors host street cookouts where neighborhood residents can meet and get to know their neighbors. Check offcampus.osu.edu for the date and time of your neighborhood cookout.

“Tostoberfest” Corn Hole Tournament
This is the event you need to attend if you have mad corn hole skills. With well over 100 teams, winners not only get bragging rights, but prizes in the past have included TVs for each team member!

Light Up the Night Kick-Off and Competition
Students decorate their apartments and houses for the holiday season, celebrate at the kick-off event, and compete for big prizes.

Buckeye Block Watch Bash
This interactive and hands-on Buckeye Block Watch safety fair helps you learn how to keep yourself and your neighbors safe from crime and accidents, as well as ways to be healthier. Free food, prizes and other great things!

Do you drive to campus?

The mission of the Commuter Liaison program is to enhance the commuter student experience at Ohio State. Commuters are defined as students who do not live in off-campus housing and essentially live beyond walking distance. Commuter Liaisons (CLs) build community among commuter students and promote commuter student success by hosting programs, advocating for commuter needs and acting as a resource for students.

Upcoming commuter events

Good Morning, Commuters
Meet your CLs at the West Campus parking lot and start your morning off with snacks such as hot chocolate or bagels.

Commuter Chill-Outs
Bring your lunch and meet other commuter students as well as participate in fun activities in the Ohio Union.

Swag CABS
CLs may run into you on a CABS bus and hand out free swag from Student Life for knowing facts about commuting to Ohio State.

Commuter Cookout
Commuter students can meet other commuters, grab food, learn about changing tires and road safety and try to win car tool kits!

Commuter Services

Commuter Preview Day
Commuter students can take the opportunity to adjust to campus before autumn semester begins in an orientation-like program.

Commuter Kitchen
The commuter kitchen, located on the third floor of the Ohio Union, is a convenient place to store your food while on campus. It includes refrigerators, microwaves, a sink with garbage disposal and cabinets.

Commuter Lockers
Commuting students can reserve a locker, located in the Ohio Union or Younkin Success Center, starting the first day of classes each session. Lockers are free—OCCSE provides the lock—and are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.
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FINDING OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

- Becoming Familiar with Columbus
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- The Search for Off-Campus Housing

BECOMING FAMILIAR WITH COLUMBUS

The Ohio State University is in the heart of the City of Columbus. You can experience arts, theater, restaurants, music and of course Buckeye athletics! Check out many Columbus attractions, including the Newport Concert Hall, the Scioto Mile and the Short North.

Each of the distinct areas of Columbus offers unique attractions, building the identity of central Ohio. The Columbus Zoo and Easton Town Center bring families to the northern suburbs of Columbus, while the Ohio State Fair, Park Street Festival and Comfest attract people to diverse downtown areas like Goodale Park and the Arena District. High Street, which runs north and south, serves as the eastern border of campus and offers an abundant variety of stores, restaurants, bars and bookstores—an active area full of students. Also check out the following areas that are popular among the University population:

University District
The University District is the area directly surrounding Ohio State’s Columbus campus, considered to be within walking distance. Here, you will find a large population of undergraduate and graduate students, as well as a population of permanent residents.

The University District is made up of apartment buildings, large older homes (often divided into apartments) and townhomes. There are many nearby dining establishments—from fast-food to casual sit-down restaurants—as well as entertainment venues, including bars, movie theaters, and concert halls. The University District is also the location for fun events hosted by Community Ambassadors, who work towards building community in the off-campus neighborhoods.

Victorian Village/Italian Village
Portions of both Victorian Village, located southwest of campus and Italian Village, located southeast of campus, are within walking distance to campus. Other areas of these communities are a bike ride or a quick bus ride away.

Both areas are comprised of older, large, Victorian-style homes, along with apartment buildings and townhomes. There are a large population of Ohio State graduate students and young professionals in these communities, as well as many dining establishments and outdoor festivities, such as Comfest—an annual three-day event held in June in Goodale Park—and the Columbus Italian Festival—a three-day event held each year at the beginning of October.

Short North
The Short North, located south of campus, is an eclectic hub of bars, shops, galleries, boutiques and apartments that appeal to a diverse population. The Short North is a historic, diverse, urban neighborhood, with many year-round events, such as Gallery Hop (held the first Saturday of every month), the Arnold Classic Sports Festival and the annual Columbus Gay Pride Festival.
Arena District
Located downtown and southwest of the campus area, the Arena District is a fairly new urban area which is easily accessible by COTA. The Arena District is a trendy area, with newer apartment buildings located close to restaurants, shops and nightlife. You’ll find a large population of young professionals in this area.

German Village
German Village, a historic neighborhood south of downtown, is approximately a 10 to 15 minute bus ride from campus. German Village is home to many recent graduates and also includes the Brewery District, an area with many restaurants and bars.

Grandview
Approximately a 5 to 10 minute drive west of campus, Grandview is home to many graduate students and young professionals. The community is made up of a combination of homes, duplexes, and apartment buildings, as well as many restaurants and bars. Community events are held throughout the year, including The Grandview Hop, occurring the first Saturday of every month, April through November.

Clintonville
Located just north of campus, Clintonville is home to many recent graduates and long-term residents. Whetstone Park, a Columbus landmark, is located in Clintonville just west of High Street and features a number of bike trails, tennis courts and baseball fields, as well as the Park of Roses. During the summer, there are a number of events held here, including the Rose Festival and a variety of concerts.

COTA
COTA, the Central Ohio Transit Authority, offers an OSU/COTA bus ridership program. Students with an active BuckID can ride COTA buses an unlimited number of times by swiping their BuckID upon entrance to the bus. Use the TripPRO tool on cota.com for a customized trip itinerary.
BECOMING FAMILIAR WITH CAMPUS

The Oval
In the middle of campus, the Oval is a sprawling green space offering students room for various activities, like the Student Involvement Fair during Welcome Week and a peaceful refuge for studying (or sun bathing on the weekends). Don’t miss this iconic part of campus.

Ohio Stadium
Also known as the Horseshoe, or the ‘Shoe, Ohio Stadium is easy to find—just follow the crowds on a Saturday during autumn semester. Cheer on the Buckeyes as they drive down the field for a truly unforgettable student experience!

Thompson Library
Thompson Library is the complete student study retreat. Choose books, journals, and other materials from a wide collection, then escape to your own private study space—there are many to choose from! Bring your own laptop and connect to Ohio State’s wireless network or use one of the library’s 230+ computers. When you need a study break, stop by the Berry Café for a sandwich or salad.

Ohio Union
Opened in 2010, the Ohio Union has an assortment of food options, stores, and plenty of space to study or meet with fellow students. Looking to get involved with a student organization? The Ohio Union is home to a multitude of student and administrative offices vital to Ohio State life. Be sure to check out NSC and OCCSE in 3106 Ohio Union!

Recreational Sports Facilities
Ohio State’s Columbus campus has five recreational sports facilities with a wide range of amenities. From the Adventure Recreation Center (ARC) to the Recreation and Physical Activity Center (RPAC), the University offers state-of-the-art facilities. The RPAC has more than half a million square feet of recreation, meeting, fitness and aquatic space. Visit any of the five facilities to burn off some calories and stress!

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Students taking four or more credit hours have access to Rec Sports facilities with a BuckID.
ROOMMATES 101

Discuss how to find that perfect rental property is important, but finding a compatible roommate is just as—if not more—important. Take as much time and care in choosing your roommate(s) as you do in choosing where you live. Your happiness with your living environment is directly related to your relationship with your roommate(s). Personal problems with a roommate can cause unnecessary stress. Remember: friends are not always the best roommates. In general, living with other people during your off-campus living experience can be fun and exciting; however, there are many implications that go along with signing a lease with other individuals.

From day one: TALK ABOUT IT

Clear Expectations
The best way to present clear expectations is by drafting and signing a roommate agreement. Feel free to utilize Neighborhood Services and Collaboration and/or Student Legal Services to get a sample roommate agreement. It is imperative that you and your roommate(s) discuss all items on the roommate agreement and come to a mutual understanding. For a sample roommate agreement, see pages 73-74 in this Off-Campus Living Guide.

Budget
Some students are on a very strict budget, not only paying tuition on their own, but also living expenses. Often they are working two jobs in addition to attending school full-time. Other students may be fortunate to have parents/family members who are willing and able to support the student financially throughout their college career. Both types of students may live together off-campus and should discuss their financial situation and expectations prior to signing a lease. This can help avoid future conflict when it comes to money issues. If you are concerned with your roommate’s ability to pay rent regularly, ask to see a credit report. Offer a copy of your own, in return. A copy of your credit report can be obtained through the Columbus Credit Bureau for a small fee, or by visiting annualcreditreport.com. Finally, implement a monthly budget plan and stick to it!

Unforeseen Circumstances
You can’t predict everything in life, but you can certainly plan for the future. For example, a roommate may run into financial difficulties and be forced to move out without paying rent. This may leave the financial burden on the remaining roommate(s). Decide how the household would deal with a situation such as this. In addition, students often plan to study abroad, and try to find a replacement roommate. Discuss if the remaining roommates will have a say in the selection of a replacement roommate. Discussing such scenarios can help resolve potential conflict in the future, if expectations are clear from the very beginning.

Student Advocacy Center
1120 Lincoln Tower | 1800 Cannon Drive | 614-292-1111 | studentlife.osu.edu/advocacy | advocacy@osu.edu

Do you have a problem you don’t know how to solve? Is there information you cannot find? The Student Advocacy Center was established to help answer your questions, direct you to the appropriate departments and people, familiarize you with University policies and procedures, and give you guidance as you look for ways to solve problems and make choices. The Student Advocacy Center staff can help you become better informed so that you can focus on your classes, make important decisions about your future, and ultimately achieve your dream of a college degree.

How the Household Will Deal With Conflict
In an ideal world, you and your roommate(s) will get along great, live in pure bliss and never have disagreements. However, reality is that you will most likely have some level of conflict while living together, whether it is a minor disagreement or huge brawl. It’s nearly impossible to discuss every scenario that may come up during the lease term, but you can discuss, in general, how conflict will be resolved, if and when it arises. Will the roommates have a house meeting and vote on how to resolve the problem (majority rules)? Will the roommates contact the Student Conduct office to utilize its mediation program? Or will some other agreement be reached?
The Ohio State University’s Moritz College of Law has partnered with Student Conduct to offer free mediation services to all Ohio State students to resolve conflicts and disagreements. Mediation is a problem-solving process guided by a neutral third party who assists in understanding issues and exploring options with the goal of resolving the dispute. All parties have the opportunity to express their concerns. The mediator will not choose sides and will not attempt to determine who is telling the truth or who is lying. The mediation process is confidential with limited expectations. Since mediation is voluntary, all parties must be willing to consider mediation in order for the process to continue. Mediation sessions typically last one-and-a-half to two hours. Not all parties must be Ohio State students; as long as at least one of the parties is an Ohio State student, the parties may use the Student Mediation program.

Discuss the Lease Term

Although most off-campus leases are 11½- or 12-month leases, many students choose to go home during the summer months. Regardless of whether you are living in the rental property, you are responsible for paying your rent on time. Make sure you and your roommate(s) are aware of one another’s summer plans and that you are all in agreement on items such as:

1. Will each roommate be responsible for paying a share of the utilities, even if he/she is not residing in the property?
2. If a roommate wants to sublet his/her room (and the landlord permits this), is everyone comfortable with the arrangement? Will the current roommates have a say in selecting the new/temporary roommate?

House rules to consider:
1. Will the household have quiet study hours?
2. Will everyone share the cost of food or shop individually and have a hands-off policy?
3. Will everyone be permitted to have overnight guests (and if so, rules pertaining to that)?
4. Will there be stipulations on what the temperature of the thermostat?
5. Will the household have a cleaning schedule?
6. Will everyone be permitted to host parties (and if so, rules pertaining to that)?
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THE SEARCH FOR OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

Now that you are familiar with the University District and Columbus areas, it’s time to begin your housing search. If you are from out of town and will be making a visit to Ohio State, make sure you contact landlords in advance to make appointments to view rental properties. Keep in mind that landlords are required to provide current tenants 24-hours’ notice prior to showing the property. Most landlords who own rental property in the University District will not have a model unit that they can show at the spur of the moment.

Once you have set up appointments with various landlords to view rental properties, make sure you are ready for the day(s) of tours. Be prepared to take pictures/notes of both the positive and negative aspects of the property at each of your appointments. This will be very helpful when it comes time to review your options and to make a final decision. You should consider many things when deciding where you are going to live:

Can I Afford This?

This is one of the most important things you need to determine. You do not want to overextend your budget simply because you’re attracted to a house with a second-level porch and half bath. Living within your means is vital. You will not only need to consider the cost of rent, but also utilities, cost of renter’s insurance, food, books, parking and various other living expenses. When living off-campus, you must keep track of your money and budget accordingly. It is important to set aside enough money each month for all expenses. Many students receive scholarships or grants, have jobs and/or receive assistance from family members in order to cover living costs. If you plan on using a credit card, make certain you have enough money each month to pay the total balance. In addition, do not fall prey to “free items” you may receive by opening a credit card account. Your credit is much more important than a free gift card. Preparing a budget is a great way to keep track of your money and to be financially responsible. Create a spreadsheet to itemize your planned expenses as well as the actual amount you spend each month (refer to the Monthly Budget Plan on page 70). The Student Wellness Center is a great resource for financial information and coaching.

Utility Costs

When renting a property, utility costs are often not included in the rent cost. Utilities can vary a great deal based on the type of unit you are renting and the age of the building, among many other factors. NSC suggests budgeting, at minimum, an additional $150–$200/month per person (when living with roommates) for electric, gas, cable, internet and water. If you’re living alone, utility costs will most likely be higher. When viewing a rental property, it may be beneficial to ask the current tenants what their average utility bills are per month. Of course, everyone has different usage patterns, but this may give you a ballpark figure. If you are unable to speak to the current tenants, you may be able to contact utility companies directly and ask them what the bills were for specific months throughout the year.

Am I Comfortable with the Location of the Rental Property?

You don’t want to live where you feel unsafe simply to save a few bucks. Be smart and do your research. Here are some important tips to follow:

- Visit the property during the day, at night, and on weekends to see if there is a major difference in environment (and if there is, make sure you are comfortable with this). Follow your gut: if you get the sense that you are unsafe or uncomfortable in your surroundings, chances are you feel this way for a reason.
- Talk to the current tenants and/or neighbors and see what their experience has been in regard to crime and safety issues
- Check out crime statistics for a particular area by visiting raidsonline.com
- Talk to your friends! Often, your friends can be your best resource when trying to find a suitable off-campus property.

Is this Property Suitable for Me (and my roommates)?

Very rarely will you find exactly what you are looking for in a rental property; compromise is a given. You may have to give up that dream of having a rooftop deck or outdoor pool. However, you should find a property that meets your crucial needs. Be realistic on expectations of what you will find and what you can afford, and make sure you and your roommates are on the same page. Come up with a list of amenities that you must have, so you are all prepared prior to looking at any properties.

Is the Landlord Reputable?

Initially, a majority of landlords seem nice and honest (and most are), but you never know what the future holds. Make sure you talk to the current tenants (when the landlord is not present) to find out what their experience has been with the landlord. Ask questions such as:

- Was the place ready to move in at the start of the lease term?
- Does the landlord make repairs in a timely fashion?
- Does the landlord provide 24-hours’ notice prior to entering the premises?
- Is the landlord respectful and easy to work with?
- Would you rent from this landlord again?

Scarlet & Gray Financial

Scarlet & Gray Financial empowers students by helping to develop healthy financial behaviors that will enable them to achieve short and long term personal goals to create the life they desire. 11 appointments with a peer coach may be scheduled online at go.osu.edu/yourfinances or by calling 614-292-4527.

Employment

If you are seeking employment, save money on rent by providing your living costs and/or to get involved, utilize Buckeye Careers Network, Ohio State’s University wide online resource to connect Ohio State students with employers for jobs, internships, co-ops and career opportunities. Careers.osu.edu

Save a few Bucks

Save money on those winter heating costs by covering the windows with plastic! Keep cooler in the summer by closing shades, blinds and curtains during the day—and save on air conditioning bills! Doing laundry at home? Use the cold water cycle to save money!
Identifying Rental Scams

Use caution when you create roommate and sublet ads online. The storylines will differ but in general a scammer might contact you about your roommate or sublet ad in an attempt to steal your money and commit fraud.

Warning Signs:

- The individual is eager to send you money for the apartment/room without seeing it, talking to your roommates, or talking to your landlord
- You receive a certified check or money order for more than the amount that you agreed upon with the subtenant
- You are asked to wire funds or send money orders to the subtenant
- The subtenant is not willing to provide basic identifying information, including a copy of license, SSN, references and credit reports
- The subtenant asks you to handle the sublease without informing your landlord (this is done to sidestep the background check process)

How to Protect Yourself:

- Deal locally with the person, and actually meet them. Avoid individuals that claim they cannot meet you in-person, or say someone else will meet you instead.
- Don't wire funds and avoid cashier's checks. Any mention of money, money orders, cashier’s checks, wire transfers, or bank accounts in the first email is very suspicious.
- Check the individual’s references (like past landlords or employers). Do a Google search on the person's name and email and see if it has been used in past scams.
- Ask the individual for his or her phone number, full name, and employer verification. If the individual becomes angry or won’t give you information, it's probably a scam. Stop communicating with the individual.
- Refuse over-payment
- Do not share your personal information unless you've confirmed the individual’s name and personal information

For more information about common rental scams, visit the Federal Trade Commission's Consumer Information page or contact Student Legal Services.
ATTENTION
OHIO STATE
STUDENTS

Skip the moving, lifting and assembling and fill your place with stylish, comfortable furniture without lifting a finger.

FURNITURE RENTAL PACKAGES START AT
$99/mo for a 1 bedroom apartment.*

*With a 12 month lease. Shorter lease terms available.

CORT has helped thousands of students make the transition back to school with great looking furniture for their off-campus housing.

FINDING OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

HOW TO INSPECT A PROPERTY

Once you and your roommate(s) have found a potential rental property you are interested in, be sure to view the property again before signing a lease. Go through the entire property and inspect it thoroughly.

- Turn on all faucets/showerheads to make sure the hot/cold water works
- Flush all toilets
- Check the thermostat and make sure the heat and air conditioning work properly
- Make sure there is a sufficient amount of outdoor lighting for your safety
- Inspect windows by opening them, both to check condition of their hardware and to make sure they are not painted shut. Bedroom windows should be large enough to escape through in a fire.
- Inspect floors and carpet for moisture damage
- Make sure all exterior doors have proper locks
- Check all appliances to make certain they are functioning properly
- Talk to the current tenants to see if they have had specific problems with anything in the rental property

If you do see any issues and/or needed upgrades, discuss each item with the landlord. If he/she agrees to your requests, be sure to put each item in writing in the lease.

After inspecting the property, if you and your roommates are still interested in renting it, request a sample lease from the landlord. Take the sample lease to Student Legal Services where staff will provide you with a lease review.

Did you know Student Legal Services (SLS) gives legal advice and representation to students? SLS even provides lease reviews! NSC strongly urges you to stay enrolled in the SLS program; otherwise, you can’t use their valuable services. What is a lease review? SLS will go through the entire lease with you, explain any terms you do not understand, let you know if there are unenforceable clauses, and help you put your verbal agreements in writing.
WHO IS STUDENT LEGAL SERVICES?

Student Legal Services (SLS) is an independent, non-profit law office providing eligible Ohio State students access to licensed attorneys for legal advice, representation, education, and resources. SLS advises regarding a wide array of legal issues including off-campus housing/landlord-tenant matters.

Common Off-Campus Housing Matters
- Lease Review
- Condition of Property
- Obtaining Repairs
- Security Deposit
- Roommate or Neighbor Disputes
- Lease Termination
- Subleasing
- Breach of Contract
- Pests and Rodent Problems
- Eviction

Other legal issues covered by SLS:
- Criminal Misdemeanors
- Traffic Offenses
- Consumer Transactions
- Credit and/or Debt Collection Defense
- Identity Theft
- Breach of Contract
- Simple wills, living wills, and power of attorney
- Uncontested domestic matters
- Document review
- Document drafting
- Victims of crime assistance
- Notary & much more

To schedule an appointment, call or visit studentlegal.osu.edu. If you are unsure if they cover your legal issue, call 614-247-5853.

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN SIGNING A LEASE

Although not all landlords have the same policies, typical renting requirements in the Columbus area are somewhat consistent.

- You and each of your roommates may be asked to fill out an application. There is typically a fee associated with this (approximately $30–$75 per person). The landlord may check your credit report at this time.
- Most campus-area landlords require a tenant under the age of 23 to have a co-signor (often a parent/guardian)
- Once your application has been approved, you will be asked to sign a lease. If you will be living with other individuals, make sure all tenants and co-signors sign the lease and submit it at one time. You do not want to end up signing and submitting your copy of the lease only to discover that none of your roommates and/or co-signors signed and submitted their copies. You could potentially be held responsible for the total rent amount for the entire lease term.
- Student Legal Services offers free lease reviews to students. This provides a great opportunity to learn everything about your lease. It is imperative that you understand a lease is negotiable, yet a legally binding contract.
- Once all documents have been signed, make sure each roommate keeps a copy. Save your own copy; do not depend on a roommate to retain these important documents for you.
- Before signing the lease, most landlords will require a security deposit to be paid (usually equivalent to one month’s rent)

What is a Security Deposit?
A security deposit is a payment most landlords require in order to ensure that the property is not damaged and that all money due is paid. The purpose is to secure your performance under the lease. A security deposit is refundable, as long as you are up to date on all payments, and the property is returned in the same condition as it was received, minus normal wear and tear. A security deposit is usually a sizable amount of money, so make sure you protect it. If your security deposit is not returned within 30 days after move-out, you should make an appointment with Student Legal Services.

How Can I Protect My Security Deposit?
Documentation, documentation, documentation! When moving into your rental home, take pictures/video of the entire property, preferably prior to moving in any furniture. Document everything, from floor to ceiling. This provides you a record of the condition of the property at the time of possession.

In addition, provide your landlord, with a list of all repairs that need to be made in writing, keeping a copy of this documentation for your records. Landlords often provide tenants with a move-in and move-out checklist. It is important to fill out these checklists properly (and to keep a copy for your records). NSC can provide additional tips/tools on how to properly document your rental property (see pages 71-72).
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WHY HOUSES VS. APARTMENTS?
- Spacious Living Areas/Extra Large Bedrooms
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- Available Washer/Dryer Hookup
- Porches
- Lower Utilities: Finished Lower Units/Upper Floors
- And Much More!

PROPERTY LIST
RENT STARTS AT $400 PER PERSON

1-5 Persons
- 61-63 E Woodruff 4-5
- 73-75 Chittenden 4-5
- 85-87 Eudlid 4-5
- 328 Chittenden 6-7
- 192-194 E 11th St
- 5251-2523 Nellis Lane 7
- 3011-3212 N High St
- 1528 Summit 4-5
- 333-335 E 12th St
- 1516-1518 Summit 3-5
- 222 E 11th St
- 220 E Lane 1-5
- 76-80 N Orich 4
- 104-106 W Northwood 4
- 105 W Northwood 4
- 167 E Northwood 4
- 84 E 59th High 3-4
- 165 E Northwood 3-4
- 180-182 W 8th St
- 1712 Summit 3-4
- 45-45 S Eudlid 3
- 1304 S Indiana 3
- 112 E 12th 2-4
- 320 E 17th 4-5
- 331 E 19th 6-8
- 360 E 13th 4-5
- 15-46-1550 Hunter 2-4
- 122 W Northwood 5
- 140-142 E 11th 5

6-7 Persons
- 78 E Woodruff 7
- 152-194 E 11th St
- 251 E Northwood 7
- 193 Frambes 7
- 1993 Summit 19th 7
- 29 E 17th St
- 284 E 13th 6-7
- 266-268 E 16th 6-7
- 266 E 14th 6-7
- 328 E 17th 6-7
- 1556 Summit 6-7
- 1568 N 4th/13th 6-7
- 2143 Indiana/Lane 6-7
- 2215-2217 Nellis Lane 6-7
- 235-301 E 15th 6-7
- 1496 Chittenden 4-7
- 72 E Woodruff 6
- 103-105 E Woodruff 6
- 308 E 14th 6
- 1384 Indiana 6
- 21 E Maynard/High 5-5
- 86 W North 5-5
- 529 Frambes 5-5
- 106-111 E Woodruff 5-5
- 113-115 E Woodruff 5-5
- 118 W Northwood 5-5
- 130 W Northwood 5-5
- 194 E 12th 5-6
- 1641 Indiana 5-6
- 291 E 14th 6-6
- 1633-1635 Summit 7

8-9 Persons
- 222 E 16th 9
- 199 E 14th 9-9
- 179 E Lane 9-9
- 179 E 12th 9-9
- 242 E 16th 9-9
- 428 E 15th 9-9
- 1588 Summit 17th 9-9
- 52 E Woodruff/Tiller 7-8
- 65-66 Indiana 7-8
- 130 W Northwood 7-8

10+ Persons
- 38 E 17th 10-14
- 90 E 12th 14-18
- 240 E 16th 14-18
- 43 E 15th 15-16
- 1576 Chittenden 14-15
- 1948 Summit/18th 10-13
- 1905 Indiana/17th 10-12
- 55 E 12th 10-11
- 71 E 13th 11-11
- 1865 West 18th 10-11
- 135 E 14th 11-12
- 62 E Woodruff 9-10
- 115 E 13th 8-10
- 224 E 17th 9-10
- 1957 Indiana/17th 9-10
- 80-82 Eudlid 5-10
- 115 E 12th Indiana 8-10

UNIVERSITY COMMONS
Next to East Village almost half the price with hardwood floor interiors. The University Commons is located on 12th Ave. Just a few blocks from High Street. Beautiful 1,2,3 bedroom apartments with newer hardwood floors, bathrooms and kitchens with dishwashers. All apartments have energy efficient windows, central air, large bedrooms and much more. There is off-street parking, an on-site laundry facility and a gated courtyard with picnic area and bike racks.

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DYNAMIC, LUXURIOUS SETTINGS WHERE YOU CAN LIVE, LEARN AND THRIVE

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Fully-furnished apartments with flat screen TVs, wireless and wired high-speed internet

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Security cameras in garage and common areas. Secure parking garage, storage lockers and bicycle storage units

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Eurostyle cabinetry, pendant lighting and other custom finishes

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24/7 fitness center and courtyard with gas fire pit, grills and lounge seating

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Contemporary fixtures, including rain shower heads. Most bedrooms have private baths

EASY LIVING
Central air, washer and dryer in every apartment and 24/7 maintenance and property management

ALSO LEASING: THE VIEW ON FIFTH
1005 Fifth Avenue, in the Grandview area of Columbus
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Choose a fully-furnished apartment or furnish your own. 1- and 2-bedroom garden units have open floor plans, large windows, washer/dryer units, contemporary kitchens, walk-in closets, and wood grain floors. A well-equipped clubhouse offers recreation space and a 24/7 fitness facility. We’re pet-friendly, too! A dog-park, where you and your four-legged pal can play all day, features a state-of-the-art dogwash.

Secure lockers in the clubhouse provide additional storage space in a safe and dry environment. The View on Fifth is just a few minutes commute to The Ohio State University Campus, downtown, and the 315 Research and Technology Corridor. It’s also a short walking distance from Grandview Avenue’s shopping and dining area.

NOW LEASING: 614-291-2600
www.HomeTeamProperties.net

All properties are managed by HomeTeam Properties, a premier student housing manager. HomeTeam Properties is powered by experienced and friendly professionals who work hard to make your life easy.

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www.HomeTeamProperties.net

MOVE-IN READY JAN. 2015
NOW LEASING: 614-291-2600

MOVE-IN READY JULY 2014

LIVING OFF CAMPUS
Moving into an apartment/house can be a very exciting time, as you’ll have a new place to live and a new sense of freedom—as well as a new set of responsibilities. NSC is here to help prepare you for your off-campus move.

Schedule Utility Connections
Generally, it is the tenant’s responsibility to make arrangements for utility connections (such as water, gas, electric, trash, cable and internet). It is beneficial to contact utility companies at least two weeks in advance since many tenants in the University District will need utilities connected at roughly the same time. Make sure you get on the schedule as quickly as possible. In addition, it is advisable that individuals do not put all utility bills in one person’s name. If someone does not pay his/her share of the bills one month, you do not want the burden to fall on the same person. In addition, setting up a utility bill in your name helps build credit, so take this opportunity to build your credit and learn how to pay bills—on time.

Purchase Renter’s Insurance
It is highly recommended that all tenants purchase renter’s insurance. Landlords typically have property insurance to cover the actual structure of the building, but this does not cover your personal property. You need to make sure to have insurance to replace your belongings if they are damaged in a fire or flood, or are stolen. Most insurance companies will provide competitive rates if you bundle your insurance package (for example, if you have your automobile insurance and renter’s insurance through the same company). Renter’s insurance is very inexpensive; there is no excuse for not having it!

Your landlord’s insurance does not cover your personal property in the event it is damaged in a fire or stolen. Check with your auto insurance company or other insurance companies for a price quote. You can also ask your parents to see if their homeowner’s insurance covers your property. Ask Student Legal Services to review your renter’s insurance policy (or any potential policy) to ensure that the policy covers your acts of negligence. Some insurance policies will exclude your acts of negligence from coverage. So, for example, if you accidently cause a fire in your apartment that leads to damaged personal property, you want to make sure you’re covered by your renter’s insurance.

Update Your Local Address
Update your local off-campus address at buckeyelink.osu.edu each year. Keeping your local address up to date with the University lets your Community Ambassadors know where you live on their street, so they can notify you of fun and informative programs and events going on in your neighborhood. They can also provide you with important announcements, such as street sweeping dates, safety, and crime information. Also make sure you keep the post office up to date with your local address. Visit usps.gov.
Do You Need a City Parking Permit?
Many landlords do not offer and/or guarantee off-street parking. If you plan to have a car while living off-campus, make sure you have a place to park and that you read street signs and parking signs carefully. Certain areas in Columbus do require you to have a City Parking Permit, especially in the University District area. Permit costs are as follows:

- August 1, 2014, to October 31, 2014 – $25
- November 1, 2014, to January 31, 2015 – $20
- February 1, 2015, to April 30, 2015 – $15
- May 1, 2015, to July 31, 2015 – $10

*These prices are subject to change at any time

A representative from the City of Columbus sells City Parking Permits at the NSC office for a limited time in mid-August. For the 2014–2015 academic year, permits will be sold August 20–22 and 26–29, 2014 (excluding the weekend) 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m.–4 p.m. in 3106 Ohio Union. If you need additional information, contact the Parking Violations Bureau at 614-645-6400 or visit publicservice.columbus.gov.

Register to Receive Campus Public Safety Notices
The Campus Public Safety Notice (“Notice”) is provided to give students, faculty, and staff timely notification of crimes that may present a threat to the campus community and to heighten safety awareness. In general, criminal suspects are unknown to victims, however, in the instance of a violent crime occurring between two individuals who know one another, University Police look at each instance to determine if the suspect poses a continued threat to the campus community and issues a warning when necessary. The Notice also seeks information that may lead to arrest and conviction of the offender when violent crimes against persons or major crimes against property have been reported to the police.

University Police is responsible for a Public Safety Notice when a crime is reported to or brought to its attention, and that crime represents a threat to the safety of the campus community. Information for alerts also comes from other law enforcement agencies or other offices. Every attempt will be made to distribute the Notice within 12 hours of the time the incident is reported; however, the release is subject to the availability of accurate facts concerning the incident. Notices are distributed to on campus offices, residence halls and libraries, off-campus businesses, on and off-campus postings, and online.

To register to receive Public Safety Notices, go to dps.osu.edu/police.psn/.

Who is Bringing What?
Make sure you and your roommates are clear on who is bringing what furniture, appliances, cleaning supplies, etc. on move-in day. Otherwise you could end up with three kitchen tables and no chairs!

Determine How Rent Will Be Paid Each Month
Some landlords require rent to be paid in one check while others allow tenants to pay rent individually. Some expect a check to be dropped off or mailed while others require tenants to pay rent online each month. Be aware of and prepared for how your landlord requires rent to be paid. If you and your roommate(s) are required to submit one check for the rent payment each month, how will this be done? Will one person collect rent from everyone prior to the due date? Will everyone have a joint checking account solely for rent payments? Make sure you and your roommate(s) have discussed this, have come up with an agreement, and have documented this in your roommate agreement.

Update Your Cell Phone Number with Buckeye Alert
The Buckeye Alert system is designed to keep you informed of any ongoing emergencies via text message to your cell phone. This is a free service that will inform you of where you should go and what you should do to remain safe in the event of an emergency. Students are automatically enrolled in this service. Visit buckeyealert.osu.edu to keep your cell phone number up to date.

Join the NSC mobile club to get reminders about street sweeping, upcoming events, and parking permit details! Just text OSUNEIGHBORHOOD to 47368 to register.
TRASH TALK

Trash Collection
Trash collection for the City of Columbus is managed by the Department of Public Service, Division of Refuse Collection.

How to Determine Your Trash Collection Day
- Wheeled containers and 300-gallon containers are emptied once a week
- Columbus dumpsters are emptied once a week, within a two-day window
- To look up your designated trash-collection day, visit publicservice.columbus.gov/refuse
- Utilize the “My Columbus” mobile application

What Can I Place in My Trash Container?
- Most of your household trash can be placed in your container
- Trash must be bagged and tied before you place it in your container. This prevents litter and rodents and is required by Columbus City Code.
- Do not put trash around the outside of the container. Only trash inside the container will be collected.
- Yard waste cannot be thrown away with regular trash
- Items such as old furniture that are too large for your container are considered bulk trash. The City provides free collection of these items, but you must contact the City to schedule bulk collection.
- Recyclable items such as plastic bottles, paper and cans should not be placed with your household trash, but should be recycled appropriately
- Some household trash, such as pesticides or other chemicals, is hazardous and cannot be placed with regular trash

Where Do I Place My Green, Wheeled Trash Bin?
- If you have a wheeled trash container, place it at your designated collection point before 6 a.m. (but no more than 12 hours prior to collection).
- Please call the 311 center if you do not know your designated collection point
- Remove your container from the collection point no more than 24 hours after collection and keep it in a secure place

Bulk Item Collection
Bulk items are not collected unless the resident schedules a pick-up collection. Some large items cannot be thrown away because they are too big to fit in the trash container. Residents should contact the City’s 311 call center and/or check out the City’s “My Columbus” mobile app to schedule a pick-up of bulk items. Bulk items include but are not limited to:
- Furniture, lamps, carpet, and mattresses
- Check out Trash Talk in the University District on YouTube for more information.

Unacceptable Trash Items
Some items cannot be collected by the City of Columbus. This includes, but is not limited to:
- Hazardous, flammable or explosive materials
- Auto parts and tires
- Excavating and building materials
- Refrigerated appliances (refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers, heat pumps, water coolers, and air conditioners)
- Furnaces, pianos, spas, hot tubs or pool tables

Donating Items
The best option for disposing of large items in good condition is to give them to a friend or charitable organization, or take part in Ohio State’s Dump and Run (recycling.org.ohio-state.edu). Franklin County’s FirstLink can also provide referrals to organizations that accept donations of old furniture, appliances, or other items such as clothing, and use them to help families in need. Many local churches also take donated items for families.

Hazardous Waste
Household hazardous waste cannot be disposed of in your trash container. These items include, but are not limited to:
- Propane, gasoline, paint, bleach, batteries, or rat poison. Call 311 with any questions.

Sustainable Living
Going green has never been easier. The Columbus GreenSpot program is an online program developed in 2008 as an initiative of Mayor Michael B. Coleman to inspire, educate, and recognize those in our community taking steps toward environmental sustainability. Nearly 7,000 homes, businesses, and other organizations are participating in the program. GreenSpot members receive cost savings from adopting sustainable practices; information on member-only opportunities including rebates and low cost rain barrels; current events, tips, trends, a window decal and other recognition opportunities. Recycling, using a reusable water bottle and buying CFL light bulbs are simple steps that add up.

So, take a few minutes to visit the GreenSpot website www.ColumbusGreenSpot.org and take the pledge to be green.

SUSTAINABLE LIVING
Join the NSC mobile club to get reminders about street sweeping, upcoming events, and parking permit details! Just text OSUNEIGHBORHOOD to 47368 to register.

Recycling
To be eligible for recycling collecting services:

1. You must be a City of Columbus resident and
2. You must currently have a 90- or 300-gallon trash container collected by the City of Columbus and have adequate room to store the recycling cart. (Eligibility is assessed on a case-by-case basis. Call 614-645-3111 or visit 311.columbus.gov/colorday to see if you are eligible).

If you are eligible to recycle, the City of Columbus will issue a blue cart that holds 64 gallons of recyclables. When you move out the blue recycling container and accompanying magnet stays with the property and should be left at the residence.

Acceptable recycle items include: aluminum and steel cans and lids; flattened cardboard and pizza boxes (free of food and grease); plastic bottles and jugs; glass bottles and jars; cartons and juice boxes; cereal and other dry food boxes; newspapers, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, computer paper and phone books.

Recyclables and yard waste are collected every other week on the same day. Participants can sign up for free phone, email, calendar and Twitter collection day reminders by visiting 311.columbus.gov/colorday or calling 614-645-3111.

RecyColumbus is also always looking for volunteers to speak at community meetings and pass out literature at festivals, for more information visit www.RecycleColumbus.org.

Drop-Off Locations
There are a number of recycling drop-off locations in the Ohio State campus area, including:

- Kroger, 1350 N. High Street
- Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Avenue
- Tuttle Recreation, 240 W. Oakland Avenue
- Godman Guild, 303 E. 6th Avenue
- 165 E. 15th Avenue

If you are committed to recycling, check out the campus group Students for Recycling, who are highly involved in and knowledgeable about recycling. Visit recycling.org.ohio-state.edu for events and information sessions on how you can do your part.

Street Sweeping
The Division of Planning and Operations’ Street Maintenance Section maintains the annual street sweeping program from April through October. Street cleaning is done on a citywide non-posted basis and also in five Columbus neighborhoods that require posted parking restrictions. Cars not moved during posted sweeping dates are towed at the owner’s expense, and other fines may apply. Around the University District, street sweeping takes place on the second Thursday of each month on the north and east sides of the street and on the second Friday of each month on the south and west sides of the street. Join the NSC Mobile Club, as text reminders are sent each month. In addition, Community Ambassadors do their best to remind residents of street sweeping schedules.
STAY SAFE, PLAY SAFE

Although there are many resources and services available to help support your safety, it is up to you to take necessary precautions to stay safe. Your safety is your responsibility.

Fire Safety
Each year, hundreds of fires plague college students nationwide. According to the U.S. Department of Education 87% of all campus fires occur in the off-campus area. There are five common factors:
1. Lack of automatic sprinkler system
2. Missing or disabled smoke detectors
3. Careless disposal of smoking materials
4. Impaired judgment from alcohol consumption
5. Upholstered furniture fires on decks and porches

Top 10 tips to be fire safe:
1. If a fire breaks out, GET OUT and STAY OUT. Call 911
2. Make sure you have enough smoke alarms and that they work:
   - One on each floor, including basement
   - One in each bedroom
   - Check weekly; install fresh batteries every 6 months
   - Do not remove batteries to stop false alarms—fan smoke away instead
3. Know two ways out, especially from bedrooms
4. Don’t leave cooking or candles unattended
5. Make sure cigarettes are extinguished. Don’t smoke in bed.
6. Keep space heaters at least 3 feet away from flammable items
7. Don’t overload electrical circuits
8. Keep flammable materials at least 3 feet away from water heaters, furnaces and other sources of flames (do not store items in furnace/water heater closets)
9. Don’t use a grill on a porch or within 20 feet of a building
10. Don’t store gasoline, lighter fluid, etc. inside your house or apartment

- The leading cause of residential fires is unattended cooking (22.6% nationally).
- The leading cause of fire deaths is a result of improperly discarded smoking materials/careless smoking (nearly 800 deaths annually).
- Of adult fatalities, 50% of the victims were under the influence of alcohol, which impairs judgment and hampers evacuation efforts.
- 75% of fire fatalities occurring in student housing were off-campus residences and were attributed to disabled smoke alarms, alcohol consumption, and lack of sprinklers.
- It’s your responsibility to be smart when it comes to fire safety. You can request a free home safety visit through the Off-Campus Housing Excellence Program and learn more about enhancing your home fire safety.

Personal Safety
- Sign up for public safety notices at go.osu.edu/safetynotices
- Utilize the Student Escort Service; be sure 614-292-3322 is programmed into your cell phone
- Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.) is a free self-defense class offered to women by the Ohio State University Police. For more information on this incredible opportunity visit http://www.ps.ohio-state.edu/police/rad/
- Never walk alone at night, always have at least one person with you
- Let someone know of where you’re going and you’re expected arrival time, with a route of the way in which you’ll be getting to your destination
- Know the locations of emergency “blue-light” telephones
- Stay out of alleys
- Walk in well-lit areas
- Don’t leave headphones or ear buds in while walking at night
- Be aware of your surroundings while walking
- Keep valuables out of your car, always
- Read all e-mails from your Community Ambassador for Public Safety Notices and other safety information
- Remember stranger danger! Go with your gut. If your gut is telling you that something is wrong, chances are it is right, and get yourself out of that situation
- Don’t ever tell strangers where you’re headed or any personal information
- Watch your drink when at a party, and do not leave your drink unattended
- If you feel overwhelmed with life’s daily tasks or academic coursework, Counseling and Consultation Service (CCS), located on the 4th floor of the Younkin Success Center, provides comprehensive mental health services to students to promote personal well-being and academic success. Students can receive up to ten visits free.
- The Sexual Violence Education and Support (SVES) team addresses situations of sexual violence, including sexual assault, stalking, intimate partner violence, and sexual harassment. The SVES team offers prevention and education resources and programs throughout the Student Wellness Center and support services through the Student Advocacy Center. A Sexual Violence Assistance Fund is also available for survivors of sexual violence. For more information, visit go.osu.edu/sves.
- Attend Buckeye Block Watch events

Buckeye Block Watch
Buckeyes are watching this block! When you get involved with Buckeye Block Watch, you become the eyes and ears for safety in your neighborhood. Making your community safer by getting to know your neighbors, reporting suspicious behavior, and looking out for yourself and others is what Buckeye Block Watch is all about.

LIVING OFF CAMPUS
Protect what’s really important in your life — your loved ones, the personal possessions that make a house your home, or the business you’ve worked so hard to build.

SDG Security provides a local touch and reliable service. You can rest easy knowing that what you value most is well protected. And that is what’s important to us.

**residential and commercial security systems**

- **telephone and intercom systems**
- **home theater and sound systems**

24/7 local monitoring and customer support

locally owned and operated

remotely manage your security system and home environment!

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**Hang a Buckeye Block Watch Placard in Your Window**
- This signals to criminals that they are being watched
- Helpful safety information is included on the side facing in
- Didn’t get a placard? Contact your Community Ambassador: offcampus.osu.edu/off-campus-community
- Win free pizzas and Coke products for having it in your window; drawings held each semester!

**See Something? Say something!**
- Call 911 for emergencies
- Call 614-645-4545 for non-emergencies
- Please do not involve yourself in addressing incidents. Report issues, and allow law enforcement and other authorities to handle the response.
- Report graffiti, vandalism, street light problems and other disorder by using the MyColumbus App; download it at mayor.columbus.gov/MyColumbus or by calling the 311 Call Center at 614-645-3111.

**Home Security**
- Keep doors and windows locked at all times, even when you are home!
- Install free safety devices available at 3106 Ohio Union
- Keep exterior lights on
- Do not open your door to strangers
- If you’ve scheduled a utility company appointment ask for an ID or badge before allowing entry

**When Leaving for Break:**
- Make sure all doors and windows are locked
- Leave all shades/blinds closed

**Pedestrian Safety**
- Stay on sidewalks
- Use crosswalks
- Obey traffic signs and signals
- Make eye contact with drivers
- Be visible to drivers and bicyclists
- Avoid dangerous behaviors
- Wear light colored clothing at night
- Be aware of surroundings
- Do not jaywalk

**Take items of value home with you**
- Disconnect electrical extensions, even toasters
- Do not leave any checks, moneys, IDs, or credit cards behind
- Do not leave keys to your home anywhere outside the property
- Turn down your heat, but do not turn it off. Keeping the heat on a low temperature is okay, but do not turn it below 55 degrees. This will help prevent pipes from freezing and potentially bursting.
- Leave a few lights on or get a safety timer from 3106 Ohio Union that will automatically turn lights on and off (don’t set it for the same time each day)
- Have a friend or neighbor check on your property. If a break-in occurs, notify the police immediately.
- Make sure your mail service and/or newspaper delivery is temporarily held. Accumulating mail is a sure sign that no one is home. To temporarily hold your mail, visit holdmail.usps.com.

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614.236.1773
sdgsecurity.com
Bicycle Safety
Bicycle safety is very important. In Ohio, bicyclists are required to follow the same rules of the road as motor vehicles. One-way streets, stop signs, riding on the right side of the road, and yielding to pedestrians are some of the requirements for bicyclists. Bicycles are not allowed on sidewalks, including the Oval.

- Remember, two locks are better than one. U- or O-shaped locks work best in deterring bicycle theft. When parking, lock both rims and the frame to a bike rack for more security. Use only bike racks, not small trees or outside furniture, and keep walkways and stairways unobstructed.
- Prevent crime: When your bike is parked for an extended period, occasionally move it to show you are keeping a watchful eye.
- Bug Your Bike! Bicycle theft can be a problem for students. Use the latest technology to “Bug Your Bike” with a free RFID (radio frequency identification device) as part of the Student Life Risk Assessment efforts to prevent theft. Bugs are available at University Security and Fire Prevention Services, 1010 Blankenship Hall.
- Register your bike: This is a free service that takes only a few minutes out of your day. A registered bike that is lost or stolen is more likely to be found or returned. For more information or to register your bike, visit the Public Safety office in Blankenship Hall.
- Be a communicative bicyclist - let others on the road know your next move by using these hand signals:

Safety Contacts
OSU Department of Public Safety
901 Woody Hayes Dr | 614 292-2121 | ps.ohio-state.edu

Through education, information, and active police and security presence, the OSU Department of Public Safety works to provide residents with the necessary resources to live in a safe environment. Through their website you can sign up for the Buckeye Alert System and discover additional safety information: ps.ohio-state.edu.

Columbus Division of Fire
3639 Parsons Avenue | 614 221-3132

Columbus Police Department
Non-Emergency: 614 645-4545 | columbuspolice.org

Neighborhood Policing Center
248 E. 11th Avenue | 614 247-1760

The Neighborhood Policing Center, located between Summit and N. 4th in the University District, brings together law enforcement agencies and community organizations in an innovative and unique way to increase safety and visibility of police officers in the University and Weinland Park areas.

Community Crime Patrol
248 E. 11th Avenue | 614 247-1760, | communitycrimepatrol.org

Acting as an extra set of eyes and ears for the Columbus Division of Police, Community Crime Patrol, Inc. (CCP) gets the police to situations where they are needed. CCP is a group of highly trained citizen patrollers working to increase safety in Columbus neighborhoods. Equipped only with flashlights, two-way radios, and their training, CCP patrollers deter criminals, build neighborhood crime prevention awareness, assist in the apprehension of suspects, and provide first aid when needed. There are currently more than two-dozen patrollers in five Columbus neighborhoods.
LIVING OFF CAMPUS

Landlord-Tenant Law:

Landlord Obligations under Ohio Landlord-Tenant Law:
- Comply with all applicable building, housing, health, and safety codes
- Keep the property in a fit and habitable condition
- Keep all common areas safe and sanitary
- Maintain all appliances and equipment
- Provide 24-hours’ notice prior to entering the unit (unless there is an emergency)

Tenant Obligations under Ohio Landlord-Tenant Law:
- Keep the property safe and sanitary
- Dispose of all garbage in a clean, safe and sanitary manner
- Use electrical and plumbing fixtures properly
- Comply with housing, health and safety codes that apply to tenants
- Refrain from damaging the property
- Keep appliances supplied by the landlord in good working order
- Do not disturb your neighbor’s peaceful enjoyment
- Allow the landlord to enter the premises if the request is reasonable, and proper advance notice is given. Proper notice typically refers to 24-hours’ notice, although in an emergency, it may be less.

Note: The following information refers only to Ohio law and does not constitute legal advice. If you need legal advice, contact Student Legal Services.

Both landlords and tenants have certain statutory obligations, regardless of anything set forth in the lease. If you have any questions regarding this information, set up an appointment to speak with Student Legal Services (studentlegal.osu.edu).

Rights and Responsibilities
Living off-campus can be a fun and rewarding experience, especially when you are aware of your rights and responsibilities as a tenant, roommate, neighbor and community member.

It is a violation of The Ohio State University Code of Student Conduct to participate in off-campus behavior that causes substantial property damage or serious harm to the health or safety of members of the University community. Some examples are hosting an out-of-control party, setting fires, setting off fireworks, standing on or rocking cars, throwing glass bottles or other dangerous items, and rioting.

The Code of Student Conduct outlines many different behaviors, including, but not limited to:

Rotous Behavior
1. Participation in a disturbance with the purpose to commit or incite any action that presents a clear and present danger to others, causes physical harm to others or damages property
2. Proscribed behavior in the context of a riot includes, but is not limited to:
   - Knowingly engaging in conduct designed to incite another to engage in riotous behavior
   - Actual or threatened damage to or destruction of University property or property of others, whether done intentionally or with reckless disregard
   - Failing to comply with a directive to disperse by University officials, law enforcement, or emergency personnel
   - Intimidating, impeding, hindering, or obstructing a University official, law enforcement, or emergency personnel in the performance of their duties
3. This rule shall not be interpreted as proscribing peaceful demonstrations, peaceful picketing, a call for a peaceful boycott, or other forms of peaceful dissent

Dangerous Weapons or Devices
Use, storage, or possession of dangerous weapons or devices including, but not limited to, firearms, ammunition, or fireworks, unless authorized by an appropriate University official or permitted by a University policy, even if otherwise permitted by law.

Failure to comply with legitimate directives of authorized University officials, law enforcement, or emergency personnel, identified as such, in the performance of their duties, including failure to identify oneself when so requested is a violation of the terms of a disciplinary sanction.

Noise Ordinance
The Columbus City Code prohibits any unreasonable loud noise that disturbs the quiet and comfort of a person with ordinary sensibilities. This code has restrictions on the level of noise and the distance from which the noise is coming. It cannot be so intense that it is offensive or disturbing. Violations of the City Noise Ordinance can result in criminal charges. Be respectful: do not play loud music late at night and disturb your neighbors.

Code of Student Conduct

Although you may love having that old, beat-up couch on your porch, it is illegal in the City of Columbus. Individuals are not permitted to have upholstered furniture on a porch, yard, deck, or any outdoor location. If the event of a fire, an old couch can catch fire and block your only exit.
PARTY SAFE!

Whether we’re celebrating the end of final exams, a Buckeye victory, or just enjoying time with friends, fond memories and great stories often include having a few drinks. It is important to keep in mind the importance of staying safe and obeying the law.

Before the Party
- Get a free Party Smart kit from the Student Wellness Center (partysmart.osu.edu).
- Ask an NSC representative to talk to the hosts of the party to answer any questions, discuss concerns that the hosts may have and provide tips for a safe, successful party. NSC is here to help, not hinder, the party!
- Put up orange fencing to control the crowd from leaving your yard and spilling into the street. Do not let anyone consume alcohol outside the fence.
- Talk to your neighbors prior to the party. Exchange phone numbers. Build a friendly relationship. If a friendship has been established, they are more likely to come to you first if any problems arise.
- Ensure that someone knows where you are going, who you are with and when you will return

During the Party
- Have at least one sober host
- Socialize with trustworthy friends
- Lock doors to private areas, such as bedrooms. Hide valuables; thefts occur during parties too!
- Check IDs at the door
- Do not leave drinks unattended
- Provide non-alcoholic drinks for those who do not drink or who are under age 21
- Keep music/noise at a reasonable level
- Limit the amount of alcohol available. More alcohol leads to more people. More intoxicated people in one area increases the likelihood of having problems.
- Provide alcohol in cans versus a keg. But if you do have a keg, have one of the hosts stay next to it (preferably a sober host). Check IDs at the keg so that you are not serving underage guests. You can be held responsible if you provide alcohol to someone under age 21.
- Do not let guests party on porches, roofs, or overcrowded decks beyond capacity. This is dangerous and illegal.

Open Container
It is illegal to possess in public an open container of an alcoholic beverage in public. Conviction of this offense carries a maximum penalty of a $150 fine. Consumption of alcohol in a motor vehicle is a fourth-degree misdemeanor with maximum penalties of 30 days’ imprisonment or a $250 fine or both.

Fake IDs
Possession or display of a fictitious operator’s license is a first-degree misdemeanor. The offense includes mere possession of a fictitious license or display of someone else’s valid operator’s license. The maximum penalties for this offense are six months imprisonment or a $1000 fine or both. Moreover, if the fictitious operator’s license is utilized to purchase alcohol or enter an establishment that serves alcohol, the minimum fine must be at least $250 and the person displaying the fictitious operator’s license may have his/her valid operator’s license suspended for three years.

After the Party
- Look out for each other—stay together and leave together.
- Respect your neighborhood. Clean up all garbage, cups, and cans immediately after the party.

As the Host of a Party, Remember:
- You can be held responsible for the actions of your guests
- If you have guests who have been drinking and want to drive home, call them a cab or have them spend the night at your place—do not let them get behind the wheel
- It is a violation of Ohio State’s Code of Student Conduct to host an out-of-control party, meaning you could potentially face suspension or dismissal from Ohio State. Make sure you are in control of your party at all times. If you even suspect the party is getting out of hand, contact the police for assistance.

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs
One-on-one assessments are available for alcohol (BASICS) and marijuana (CASICS) use. These programs are aimed at reducing risky behaviors and harmful consequences that may result in alcohol and drug abuse. BASICS and CASICS are designed to assist students in examining their own behavior in a judgment-free environment. Visit swc.osu.edu for more information.
STAYING HEALTHY

Being healthy is essential, regardless of what stage of life you are in. With the added stresses of school and work, staying healthy can often be a challenge. Buying your own groceries and planning your meals can be the first step in leading a healthier life. There are a number of grocery stores in close vicinity to campus.

Helpful Tips:

1. Never go to the grocery store on an empty stomach
2. Plan your meals and make a grocery list
3. Stick with your grocery list
4. Incorporate all food groups in your diet
5. Eating in moderation is key
6. Snack smart

If your schedule is so hectic that you don’t have time to cook (or don’t want to cook), perhaps purchasing a meal plan through the offices of University Residences and Dining Services would be beneficial to you. There are a variety of options, including the Regional Campus/Off-Campus/Commuter Meal Plan (urds.osu.edu/dining).

Ohio State has several recreational facilities, located in many areas of campus—so there’s no excuse not to fit exercise into your daily schedule. Exercise is not only good for your health, but it’s also a great way to relieve stress, increase confidence and lead a well-balanced lifestyle.

The University offers free group fitness classes, personal training, aquatics, climbing, intramural sports, sports clubs and even massage therapy! If you are passionate about health and want to get involved, the Exercise Science Club is a student organization that promotes the health and wellness of all Ohio State students (esc.org.ohio-state.edu).

The Student Wellness Center also offers nutritional counseling—a great, free opportunity for all Ohio State students! Of students surveyed, 100% said they would recommend the nutritional services at the Student Wellness Center to someone they know. The center not only offers information on nutrition, but also on fitness education, eating disorders, as well as tips and tools that can be applied to any individual.

The City of Columbus’ mobile application “My Columbus” includes the Get Active initiative, a great way to access information on upcoming events, fitness education, eating disorders, as well as tips and tools that can be applied to any individual.

The Condom Club

The Condom Club provides condoms, barriers, and lubricant to all Ohio State students at a discounted price. To become a member of the Condom Club, visit the Student Wellness Center, watch a 10 minute presentation, and take a short quiz. Membership is free and does not expire. As a member, you can purchase up to 25 condoms for $5 every day. The Condom Club also carries oral dams, lubricant, finger cots, and latex gloves. More information is available at go.osu.edu/condomclub.

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs

Tobacco-free resources are also available in the Student Wellness Center. Students may simply pick up a quit kit filled with informational guides or you can meet one-on-one to make a quit plan. For more information on alcohol, tobacco and other drug education, please visit go.osu.edu/ATOD.

The Collegiate Recovery Community

The Collegiate Recovery Community is a supportive community for students in recovery from drug and alcohol addiction. It offers specific programming to support students in their academic and recovery journey. The Recovery House at Penn Place is an on campus living option for students in the Collegiate Recovery Community. For more information on the Collegiate Recovery Community, visit go.osu.edu/recovery.

You are surrounded by some of the most unique facilities and programs out there. Take advantage and set the stage for a healthy, happy life!
The Student Life Student Wellness Center (SLSWC) serves to empower students to strive for balance and wellness. “Wellness” is an active and ongoing process which involves becoming aware of and taking steps toward a healthier, happier, more successful life. The SLSWC is responsible for promoting the 9 Dimensions of Wellness—emotional, career, social, intellectual, spiritual, physical, financial, creative and environmental—and providing programming and services to help further student’s holistic wellness at Ohio State.

To request educational sessions or workshops for your organization, please visit go.osu.edu/swcoutreach

The Student Wellness Center also offers a variety of resources including:
- Scarlet and Gray Financial
- The Collegiate Recovery Community
- Wellness Coaching
- Wellness Ambassadors
- Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs
- Sexual Violence Education and Support (SVES)
- Nutrition Coaching
- HIV and Chlamydia/Gonorrhea Testing
- Condom Club

Student Health Services, located in the Wilce Student Health Center, a nationally accredited outpatient facility, provides a variety of healthcare services to the student population of The Ohio State University.

Medical Services include:
- Primary Care
- Dental Services
- Sports Medicine and Physical Therapy
- Preventative Medicine & Immunizations
- Optometry, including a comprehensive eyewear dispensary
- Gynecology
- Office procedures, including wound care and colposcopy
- Allergy evaluation and injection Therapy
- Travel Medicine

Support Services include:
- Radiology
- Laboratory
- Nutrition
- Pharmacy

North Campus Rentals in University District
“Experience our family’s difference in Olde North Columbus.”

- Private Entrances
- Large Kitchens
- Central Air
- Unique Floor Plans
- Hardwood Floors
- Grass Yards with Trees
- Porches
- Off-street Parking
- 24/7 On-site Management and Maintenance

Eventide Inc.
2265 North High Street
Columbus, Ohio 43201

Office: 614-297-0496
Cell: 614-402-3555
Fax: 614-297-0519
Email: Eventide@OSURent.com

www.OSURent.com
THE BASICS

Paying Rent
Paying your rent, and paying it on time, is important. NSC suggests never paying rent in cash; always have a paper trail. Paying rent to your landlord and/or to your roommate(s) via check, rather than cash, is ideal because it provides you with proof of payment. If you and your roommate(s) are required to submit only one check for rent, rather than individually, be sure to get everyone’s share early in order to pay the landlord on time. If you do not pay your rent, the landlord may take legal action against you. Even if you are having problems with your landlord (for instance, he/she is not making repairs that you requested), you still need to stay up to date on your payments. If you stop paying rent, you may not be able to deposit your rent in escrow or terminate the lease early if the landlord is not fulfilling his/her obligations under the lease. If you run into problems, you should seek the advice of Student Legal Services. The staff there will steer you in the right direction—yet another reason to remain enrolled in the SLS program.

Repairs
Your landlord is responsible for making repairs and keeping the unit in a habitable condition. You may contact the landlord in any manner to request the repair(s) be made. However, you must always follow up the request in writing immediately. This is crucial! Once notified in writing, the landlord must make repairs in a reasonable amount of time, typically within 30 days, unless it’s an emergency situation. Definitely utilize Student Legal Services if you run into any issues getting repairs completed.

311 Columbus Call Center
The City of Columbus Call Center provides a way for you to submit requests for City services by calling 614-645-3111. The call center is the single point of contact for residents to request all non-emergency City services such as potholes or fallen trees, as well as scheduling bulk trash pick-up. Check out 311.columbus.gov for more information.

The City of Columbus also provides a free mobile application for iPhones. The mobile application encompasses four main initiatives: 1) My Neighborhood 2) Get Active 3) Get Green and 4) 311.

Housing Code Violations
If you feel your apartment/house does not meet housing code requirements, and you are unable to resolve issues directly with your landlord, you may need to request a Code Enforcement supervisor to visit your property for an inspection. If you are living in the University District or Victorian Village, contact John Hughes at 614-645-3296 or jphughes@columbus.gov

Don’t Let the Bed Bugs Bite!
Bed bugs are real and can be a major problem. If you suspect that you have bed bugs, or that your neighbor has bed bugs, contact your landlord immediately and follow up in writing—documentation is key. Professional extermination is the only way to effectively eliminate a bed bug infestation.

What NOT to Do if You Have Bed Bugs
Do not try to use a bug bomb. This will only scatter the bugs. Do not use boric acid. This does not harm bed bugs. Do not use pesticides made for garden use. This can be very toxic.

Having a Pet in College
Many students decide to have a pet in college, whether it is a dog, cat or another pet. This can help promote responsibility, companionship and mental health. While there are perks of having a pet, one must make sure that they are unambiguously ready for the responsibility of raising a pet and all that entails. There are many aspects that go into the decision-making process, such as whether your landlord allows pets, the cost associated with having a pet, and if you have the time to dedicate to an additional family member.

It is crucial that you check with your landlord on their pet policy. Keep in mind that a pet to some landlords may only be caged animals (excludes cats and dogs) so make sure to be clear. Ultimately, it is vital that you and your landlord put all pet agreements in writing.

GET INVOLVED!

Getting involved as a student at Ohio State is a vital part of your college career and personal growth. And let’s face it: being involved is fun! You can meet new people, make new friends, and learn valuable skills for the future. There is an abundance of opportunities to get involved, regardless of whether you live on or off-campus.

A great place to start is the Center for Student Leadership and Services, which offers a wide range of ways to connect with leadership and service activities. ohiounion.com/get_involved/csls

There are over 1,000 registered student organizations at Ohio State! Thousands of students have found one, two, or even more student organizations that caught their attention and interested them enough to join. Student organizations are yet another fun way to connect with peers, meet a diverse group of people, develop academically and build lifelong skills. ohiounion.com/get_involved/student_organizations

The Ohio Union Activities Board (OUAB) is another great way to have fun and get involved. OUAB provides a multitude of events for students, including concerts, comedy shows, lectures, social events and much more. The best part: these are FREE events! ouab.osu.edu

The Discount Ticket Program (D-Tix) works with sporting events, concerts, and cultural events within Columbus to provide discount tickets to Ohio State students. Some popular deals include the Columbus Zoo, COSI, Columbus Blue Jackets games, the Funny Bone Comedy Club and many local area restaurants. Tickets can be purchased with a valid BuckID. dtix.osu.edu

The Community Ambassador program, through the office of Off-Campus and Commuter Student Engagement, is a fantastic way to get involved in your off-campus community. This is not only a unique opportunity, but a great way to build leadership skills and have a great time. You can apply to be a CA on your street, help your CA with various events and/or efforts, or simply take part in the many fun events held each semester: offcampus.osu.edu/community-ambassadors/

Planning to get a job on campus?
Did you know this is a great way to get involved and stay connected to what’s going on at Ohio State? sfa.osu.edu/jobs

Qualify for work-study?
Neighborhood Services and Collaboration is looking for professional, highly motivated students to fill administrative assistant and marketing assistant positions. E-mail cama1@osu.edu for more information.

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MOVING OUT

Sometimes circumstances beyond your control may cause a roommate to leave school early. The solution can be to sublease the room or entire rental property.

What to do When Subleasing
1. Be certain your landlord permits subleasing
2. Talk with your roommates and devise a plan on how the replacement roommate will be chosen
3. Utilize offcampus.osu.edu to sublease your property
4. Get a sample sublease contract from Student Legal Services and sign with the replacement tenant
5. Attend one of the many roommate fairs held each year. Roommate fairs give students an opportunity to meet potential roommates face to face in a safe, informal setting. For upcoming dates, check the NSC calendar at offcampus.osu.edu.
6. Keep in mind, even when subleasing your room to someone else, you could still be held responsible for the rent and/or any damages to the property. Talk to Student Legal Services to understand the implications of subleasing.

What to do When Moving Out
1. Double-check your lease for your defined move-out notice period
   - Notify the landlord prior to the deadline, in writing, of your intent to stay or to move out after the lease term. Student Legal Services can assist you in drafting this letter to your landlord. If you are planning to leave, you also must provide your landlord a forwarding address for your security deposit to be mailed to you. It is a good idea to get the landlord's acknowledgment of these notifications in writing, to keep for your records. Don't forget: documentation, documentation, documentation!
2. Make sure you pay your last month's rent
   - You cannot substitute your last month's rent with the already-paid security deposit.
3. Clean the property thoroughly
   - A thorough cleaning job includes removing all tacks, nails, and tape from the walls. It also includes replacing any light bulbs that are burned out.
   - Once this has been completed—and, ideally, once you move your furniture out, complete a move-out checklist (see pages 71-72) and take pictures/video (just like you did when you moved in)—to show in what condition you left the property. If necessary, you and/or the landlord can compare the checklists and photos/video of moving in to moving out. You also want to do a walk-through with the landlord, so that you can inspect the property together. Lastly, don't forget to return the keys!
4. Leave your City garbage container and blue recycling cart at the property

Your landlord typically has 30 days to either return your security deposit or provide you with a written, itemized explanation of all the deductions made. If, at this time, you do not agree with what the landlord has taken out of your security deposit and/or has charged you for, you should contact Student Legal Services for assistance.

Living off-campus can be a wonderful experience filled with great memories during your college career. Take precautions, stick to a budget, stay involved and engaged with the University and the community, and be a responsible, positive citizen and neighbor. Take pride in being a proud Buckeye at The Ohio State University as well as a proud Buckeye in our community!

Top 10 things to remember when moving off-campus:
1. Utilize Neighborhood Services and Collaboration, as well as other Student Life offices
2. Allow Student Legal Services to provide you with a lease review
3. Document everything in writing and keep a copy
4. Take responsibility for your own safety. Get involved with Buckeye Block Watch and the Community Ambassador program
5. Get involved in your neighborhood
6. Pick up your free safety devices from Neighborhood Services and Collaboration
7. Schedule a free home-visit to allow NSC and the Columbus Fire Department to assess the safety, security, and sustainability of your off-campus property
8. Lead a healthy, well-balanced lifestyle
9. Party safely
10. Join the NSC Mobile Club! Text OSUNEIGHBORHOOD to 47368
## Monthly Budget Plan

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### Move-In/Move-Out Checklist

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**Monthly Budget Plan**

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### This Roommate Agreement

This Roommate Agreement is made by the following roommates:

_________________________________________    _________________________

_________________________________________    _________________________

_________________________________________    _________________________

The roommates are co-tenants in the rental property ("Property") located at:

The Landlord is: _______________________________________
Landlord's address: _____________________________________
Landlord's phone number: ________________________________
Landlord's email: _______________________________________
Landlord's emergency maintenance number: __________________

### The roommates agree to the following terms:

1. Roommates agree to be bound by all terms herein.
2. The lease term is from _______________ to _______________.
3. The total monthly rent is $____________ per month.
4. Each roommate agrees to pay $____________ per month.
5. Roommates understand and agree that they are jointly and severally liable for all rent owed, which means that each roommate is responsible to the landlord for the full amount of the rental unit's rent if the other roommate(s) fail to pay rent.
6. Rent is due on the __________ day of the month. Check which below applies:
   - [ ] Rent is paid individually by each roommate. __________ is the Tenant Bookkeeper. The Tenant Bookkeeper will be responsible for collecting all checks and turning them in to the Landlord.
   - [ ] Rent is paid by one check to the Landlord. __________ is the Tenant Bookkeeper. The Tenant Bookkeeper will be responsible for opening and managing a separate checking account to be used by the roommates for rent and utilities. The Tenant Bookkeeper will collect all checks from the roommates and deposit them into the checking account. The Tenant Bookkeeper will deliver one check for the entire rent to the Landlord. Roommates must give their checks to the Tenant Bookkeeper at least ______ days before the rent is due and upon request for utilities.
7. Any roommate who does not meet the deadline for rent and incurs late fees will be solely responsible for paying those late fees immediately to the Landlord along with unpaid rent.
8. The total Security Deposit for the Property is $____________.
9. Security Deposit Payment – Choose which applies:
   - [ ] Each roommate has paid $____________ to the landlord OR
   - [ ] Each roommate has paid $____________ to _____

### ROOMMATE AGREEMENT

- [ ] Each roommate has paid $____________ to the landlord OR
- [ ] Each roommate has paid $____________ to ___

10. Security Deposit Return – Choose which applies:
   - [ ] Each roommate will receive an equal share of the deposit when the Landlord returns the deposit at the end of the tenancy, minus any deductions. OR
   - [ ] Roommates will determine how to divide the deposit based on the deductions and who individually should be charged for any damages.
11. If one roommate ("departing roommate") elects to leave before the end of the lease term, it (check which applies) [ ] is OR [ ] is not that departing roommate's responsibility to find a replacement roommate ("sublessee"). The departing roommate will continue to be responsible for his/her share of the rent until the end of the lease term or until a sublessee starts paying rent, whichever occurs first.
   - a. Should the sublessee leave prior to the end of the lease term, the departing roommate will again be responsible for his/her share of the rent.
   - b. All of the remaining roommates (choose one): [ ] will have OR [ ] will not have the right to approve the sublessee. Approval of a sublessee may not be unreasonably withheld, but the sublessee must satisfy the following criteria:__________________________
   - c. If at any time prior to the commencement of the tenancy or during the tenancy a roommate consents or is activated as an active duty member of the US Military, the roommate agrees to inform the remaining roommates of his/her possible intentions or orders. The remaining roommates acknowledge and understand that any active member of the US Military is allowed to terminate their legal rights and obligations under the federal law entitled The Service Members Civil Relief Act, however, the law does not terminate the legal rights and obligations of the remaining tenants, including the obligation for the entire rent amount.
   - d. If the landlord's prior written approval is required to change roommates (sublease), then (choose one): [ ] the departing roommate OR [ ] the remaining roommate(s) is/are responsible for obtaining the landlord's approval.
12. The bedroom(s) will be allocated as follows:__________________________
13. Special "house rules" about sharing space, furniture, appliances, food, use of the living room, common areas, decorations allowed in unit, etc. are:
The Ohio Landlord Tenant Law requires you to keep this rental unit in fit and habitable condition and to make all repairs. Your failure to maintain this unit in a safe, decent, and sanitary condition means that you are in violation of your obligations according to Ohio Revised Code 5321.04(a) and/or the terms of the lease agreement.

This notice being sent to you in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 5321.07(A) and (A) and will serve to notify you that I want you to remedy the conditions within a reasonable time, not to exceed thirty (30) days.

The landlord(s) have asked the court to issue an order compelling the tenant to remedy the condition(s) or to terminate the rental agreement. The court will hold a hearing on the matter and will determine the appropriate disposition of the matter.

Thank you for your cooperation. Please call me at: ______________________ (telephone number) to arrange a mutually convenient time to make these repairs.

Cordially,

[Landlord's Name]
[Address]

[Date]

[Signature(s)]

[City/State/Zip]

[Text continues on the next page]
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*Certain restrictions apply; Visit PenskeU.com for all details.

LOADLAND AND UTILITIES CONTACTS

Our landlord:
Phone: ____________________________
Emergency phone: ____________________________
E-mail: ____________________________
Maintenance: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________
E-mail: ____________________________

Utility Contact Information:
Columbia Gas of Ohio
Customer Service: 1-800-344-4077
(for gas leaks or odor of gas 24 hours/day, press option 2 after the greeting)
Emergency service: 614-461-1576
columbiagasohio.com

American Electric Power
Customer Service: 1-800-277-2177
aepohio.com

Guardian Water and Power
Customer Service: 1-877-291-3141
guardianwp.com

City of Columbus Power and Water
Phone: 614-645-7360
utilities.columbus.gov

EMERGENCY
911

National Hotline for U.S. Poison Control Centers
Phone: 1-800-222-1222
1-800-222-1222.info/poisonHelp.asp

Central Ohio (Columbus)
Children’s Hospital
Phone: 614-228-1323
chilrenshospital.com

The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center
614-232-3555
medcenter.osu.edu

Non-Emergency Police
Phone: 614-645-4141
Information Desk: 614-645-4760
columbuspolice.org

Division of Fire: Columbus
Phone: 614-221-2345
fire.columbus.gov

OSU Non-Emergency Police
Phone: 614-292-2121
ps.osu.edu

Other Important Numbers

Neighborhood Services and Collaboration
Phone: 614-292-0100
offcampus.osu.edu

Office of Student Life
Phone: 614-292-9334
studentlife.osu.edu

Office of International Affairs
Phone: 614-292-6011
dia.osu.edu

Veteran and Military Student Services
Phone: 614-247-VETS (8387)
veterans.osu.edu

Columbus City Services
Phone: 311

Student Advocacy
Phone: 614-292-1111
osu.edu/advocacy

Campus Escort Service
Phone: 614-292-3222
dps.osu.edu/escort/info/

Student Legal Services
Phone: 614-247-5853
studentlegal.osu.edu

Student Mediation
Phone: 614-292-0748
studentconduct.osu.edu/page.asp?id=36

Off-Campus Commuter Student Engagement
Phone: 614-292-0100
offcampus.osu.edu/

OSU Student Wellness Center
Phone: 614-292-4527
swc.osu.edu

Community Crime Patrol
Phone: 614-247-1760
communitycrimepatrol.org
Our Mission Is Student Success

studentlegal.osu.edu
614.247.5853

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criminal misdemeanors
traffic citations
consumer transactions
credit and debt issues
uncontested domestic
wills & power of attorney
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Speed</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2Mbps</td>
<td>Perfect for casual users checking email, listening to music and surfing the web. (1Mbps upload speed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15Mbps</td>
<td>The most popular choice for downloading pictures and music, light video streaming and casual gaming. (1Mbps upload speed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30Mbps</td>
<td>The optimal choice for multi-user households, frequent gaming, regular video streaming and file sharing. Also includes WOW! Security. (3Mbps upload speed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50Mbps</td>
<td>The ultimate choice for those who demand the most from their Internet, multi-user households, large file sharing and extreme gaming. Also includes WOW! Security. (5Mbps upload speed)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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