Moving off campus is exciting. You have more independence and learn valuable life skills like being a good neighbor. Just like your neighborhood at home, a variety of people live in the neighborhoods of Iowa City. Students, young families with small children, single working professionals and senior citizens will all likely be part of your new living community. It is important to understand their needs.

Important Contacts

City of Iowa City
www.icgov.org

Mid-American Power
(888) 427-5632

Water, Sewer, Garbage Collection
(319) 356-5066

Iowa City Animal Care & Adoption Center
icanimalcenter.org
5 Keys to Being a Good Neighbor

Introduce Yourself
A simple hello will go long way. No one wants to be “the guy down the street”. Exchange contact information and keep the lines of communication open. Neighbors can be great resources for protection, help and support.

Be Considerate
Keep noise levels down. Inform your neighbor if you plan to have a party. Respond respectfully if neighbors bring an issue to your attention. Keep the sidewalk clear of trip hazards.

Keep it Beautiful
A neighborhood is a reflection of the homes that comprise it. Dispose of trash in appropriate receptacles and don’t use indoor furniture outdoors. Tidiness includes the driveway and porch as well.

Cars and Parking
Parking can be limited in Iowa City. Park only in designated spaces. In most residential neighborhoods the speed limit is 25. If you back out, ALWAYS check for small children.

If you Have Pets
Clean up after your pet while on a walk and in your own yard. Obey leash laws. Cats must be kept indoors in Iowa City. Be sure your landlord allows pets before adding to your household. Find out about Iowa City pet regulations before you bring a pet into your home.

Party SMART
- Inform your neighbors if you are having a party. They will be more supportive if they are not surprised.
- Invite only the number of people you can accommodate. Be wary of open invitations. You may get more than you bargained for. When the crowd gets too big, noise and control become a problem.
- If you are outside, there is a greater potential for noise problems. Neighbors who go to work Friday, or have young children, don’t want loud conversation or music blasting outside their bedroom window. Guests on public property (streets and sidewalks) are subject to open container laws.
- Don’t mean to sound gross, but public urination is a problem, and a misdemeanor. Tell your guests to use the facilities.
- You cannot charge at the door—even if you call it a cup charge. It is always smartest to have guests bring their own liquid refreshments.

OFF-CAMPUS TIP:
Iowa City’s Snow Emergency ordinance is designed to limit on-street parking during a snow emergency to allow plows to access and clear the entire street during extreme winter storms. This policy has major effects on those who park their vehicles on the streets of Iowa City outside of the Central Business District.

How can I find out if a Snow Emergency has been declared?
An alert will be posted at www.icgov.org