

CHEAT SHEET

For Students Thinking of Moving Off Campus in State College

Moving off campus can be a fun experience! Take note of these important tips from the Borough of State College in order to make sure that during your time in the Borough's neighborhoods you are a safe, responsible neighbor.

(See the back for contact information if you have questions.)

HOW MANY PEOPLE SHOULD I LIVE WITH?

All rental housing must have a permit and must adhere to local codes regarding the number of individuals that can live in the unit, which is based on how many square feet. If you have questions about how many occupants are allowed in your unit, call the Centre Region Code Administration (814-234-3812).

Single family homes and duplexes in residential zoning districts have an occupancy limit of three unrelated individuals, regardless of the number of bedrooms. (Z)

In certain residential zoning districts, a single family home that has more than one student living in it requires a special "Student Home" permit and must adhere to separation distances from other registered student homes. (Z)

Cars can't be parked on lawns, so make sure you know how many spaces come with your rental. If you need a parking permit, or information about where to find parking, you should call the Parking Department at 814-278-4769. If you are wondering about the appropriate number of parking spaces at your off-campus rental, our Zoning Office can help you out. (Z)

KEEPING MY NEIGHBORHOOD TIDY

Part of making sure our neighborhoods are great is keeping them clean. Party trash or other litter in your yard can result in a \$100 fine. (O)

State law also requires recycling, which you can learn more about by contacting the Centre County Recycling & Refuse Authority at 814-238-7005.

Grass and weeds should be trimmed regularly. Snow and ice must be removed from sidewalks. Not taking care of these issues can result in a fine. If your landlord doesn't take care of these for you, our Ordinance Enforcement Office can let you know what you need to do. (O)

Indoor furniture can't find its home on your porch or in your yard! (O)

Vandalism is not tolerated. Be respectful of public property, your neighbors' properties and your own rental unit!

MAKING SURE MY RENTAL IS SAFE

Your landlord or person-in-charge is required to let you know about the Borough's ordinances and other issues that affect your safety in your rental. If you don't know who this person is, contact the Ordinance Enforcement Office. (O)

Not maintaining your rental in a safe, clean and habitable way can result in fines for you or your landlord.

All rental properties are required to have a fire extinguisher and smoke detectors, and in units where fossil fuels/solid fuels are used for heating, a carbon monoxide detector is required. These features must be inspected annually by the Centre Region Code Administration (814-234-3812).

You can have grills and small fires outdoors as long as they are for recreational purposes and only when burned in an approved container. Large bonfires are prohibited. (O)

Our neighborhoods are pet-friendly. Just make sure that dogs are licensed each year, have a rabies vaccine every three years, and you walk them on a leash. (O)

Rooftops are for keeping your rental dry—not for sitting, sunbathing, partying or any other activities.

BEING A GOOD NEIGHBOR

State College neighborhoods are very diverse—you may live next door to a family with children or even one of your professors. Meet your neighbors and exchange contact information. Establishing a relationship can provide you with a resource when you need help and avoid conflict later.

Keep the noise at a reasonable level. Be respectful of sleeping neighbors and other disturbances. The Borough has a Noise Control ordinance and violations can result in large fines. Contact the Police Department at 814-234-7150 with questions about noise levels.

Rental housing permits can be suspended if there are repeated problems with tenants or their guests or if the general maintenance and safety of a rental is not kept up. (O)

ASKING QUESTIONS & FINDING MORE INFORMATION

State College Borough Departments

Visit our online resources at: www.statecollegepa.us

(O)- Ordinance Enforcement & Public Health	814-234-7191
(Z)- Planning & Zoning	814-234-7109
State College Police Department	814-234-7150
Parking Office	814-278-4769

