

HOW TO PEACEFULLY COEXIST WITH YOUR FRATERNITY AND SORORITY NEIGHBORS

1. Introduce yourself to the chapter president(s). Ask for a phone number for contact purposes. Offer your phone number and/or email address. Share with the president any important concerns: number of children in family, neighbors with special needs, and other considerations.
2. Introduce yourself and your family to as many of the students as possible. Repeat your name several times so that the students will learn it (and do you want them to call you Mr./Mrs. or Ward/June?).
3. Learn as many names of the students as possible. Engage them in brief conversations when possible. Ask them questions. Share with them information about the neighborhood.
4. Organize a neighborhood meeting and invite members of the fraternities/sororities to participate.
5. Organize a neighborhood activity and invite the student residents to participate.
6. If you are extended an invitation to attend a function at the fraternity/sorority house, make the effort to attend.
7. If you have children, let the fraternity/sorority know what your expectations are about interactions and activities. Some fraternity and sorority members are seeking interaction with children because of their majors and career aspirations. Some members are seeking interaction with children because they like them. Let the members know what is appropriate and inappropriate.
8. If you are planning an activity that might be intrusive to the neighborhood (increased level of noise, foot traffic, automobiles and parking concerns, etc.), please inform all the neighbors at least a week before the event. Discuss any concerns and reasonable alternatives.
9. If you have concerns about a function or activity at the fraternity house, take the concern directly to the chapter president or a chapter officer. Discuss your concerns with them and give them an opportunity to remedy the situation before asking a third party to intervene.
10. Take advantage of opportunities to be pro-active with your neighbors. Discuss concerns before they happen. Make the students feel welcomed. Be a role model for the students by modeling the behaviors of a good neighbor.
11. Repeat these efforts each year, as the fraternity/sorority membership and leadership changes each year.

HOW TO PEACEFULLY COEXIST WITH YOUR AMHERST NEIGHBORS

1. The chapter president and/or other officers should introduce themselves to the neighbors. Provide each household with information about the chapter: a contact number and/or email address; a list with names of officers; name and number of chapter advisor.
2. Encourage your members to meet as many of the neighbors as possible. Repeat your name several times so that the neighbors will learn it. Engage the neighbors in brief conversations. Ask them questions about the neighborhood and the families.
3. As you meet your neighbors, determine if they have any special needs that could be met by a member of the chapter. (Examples – assistance with grocery shopping, leaf raking, removal of snow, yard maintenance, etc.).
4. Host an open house and invite area neighbors to visit and tour the chapter facility. Have a brief meeting and discuss mutual concerns. Offer your facility or yard for a neighborhood function.
5. If you are extended an invitation to attend a function at a neighbor's house, make the effort to attend.
6. Meet and know the children in the neighborhood. Drive safely and park in only designated areas. With the permission and assistance of the parents, organize an activity/event for the neighborhood children. The membership should discuss what are appropriate and inappropriate behaviors for them when in the presence of children. The use/abuse of alcohol should never take place in the presence of children or minors.
7. If you are planning an activity that might be intrusive to the neighborhood (increased level of noise, foot traffic, automobiles and parking concerns, increased trash, etc.), please inform the neighbors at least a week before the event. Give the neighbors an opportunity to voice their concerns and discuss any reasonable alternatives.
8. If you have concerns about a function or activity at a neighbor's house, take the concern directly to the neighbor. Discuss your concerns with the neighbor and give them an opportunity to remedy the situation before asking a third party to intervene.
9. Take advantage of the opportunities to be pro-active with the neighbors. Discuss concerns before they happen. Make the neighbors feel valued. Be a role model for the neighbors by modeling the behaviors of a good fraternity/sorority member.
10. Maintain a good relationship with the Amherst Police through the community policing effort.
11. Maintain regular trash collection and maintenance of the property/yard.