

# 9 SIMPLE STEPS TO BECOMING A BETTER NEIGHBOR

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD IS YOUR HOME

## 1.) Meet your neighbors

Next time you see your neighbor, take time to say “Hello” and engage in some light conversation

## 2.) Keep in Touch

Exchange contact information. This aids you in being seen by your neighbors as an individual, with the same rights and responsibilities as other residents on your street

## 3.) Communicate

Keep neighbors informed when you are having a gathering, getting a new pet, or going away for the weekend as making them aware is the polite thing to do. Give your neighbors your phone number so they may contact you if there is a problem.

## 4.) Be Conscious of Your Volume

Realize that a major source of irritation is noise. If you are out on the street at night, don't shout into your phone or burst into random song. Someday, you might have to be at work or class at 8 am.

## 5.) Resolve Conflicts Civilly

If you have a problem with a neighbor, try to work it out informally with a friendly phone call or note. Put yourself in your neighbor's shoes

## 6.) Give a Helping Hand

If your neighbors need a hand, give them one. They will appreciate your friendliness and will be more willing to help you when you are in need. Offer to help with small things like moving furniture, shoveling snow, or sharing garden vegetables. You may need their help someday.

## 7.) Keep it Clean

Keep up the appearance of your neighborhood: put trash in proper receptacles (remember the lids) and remove the receptacles from the curb after collection; clean lawns and sidewalks of litter.

## 8.) Drive Smart

Watch out for pedestrians and bicyclists. Don't block driveways or sidewalks when you park. The speed limit in most residential areas is 30 miles per hour and in a school zone, 15-20 mph.

## 9.) Be Considerate of Differences

A person's age, faith, ethnic background, and family status can dramatically affect their daily life. You and your neighbors have diverse backgrounds, careers, and experiences. Be aware of the differences - embrace and respect them.



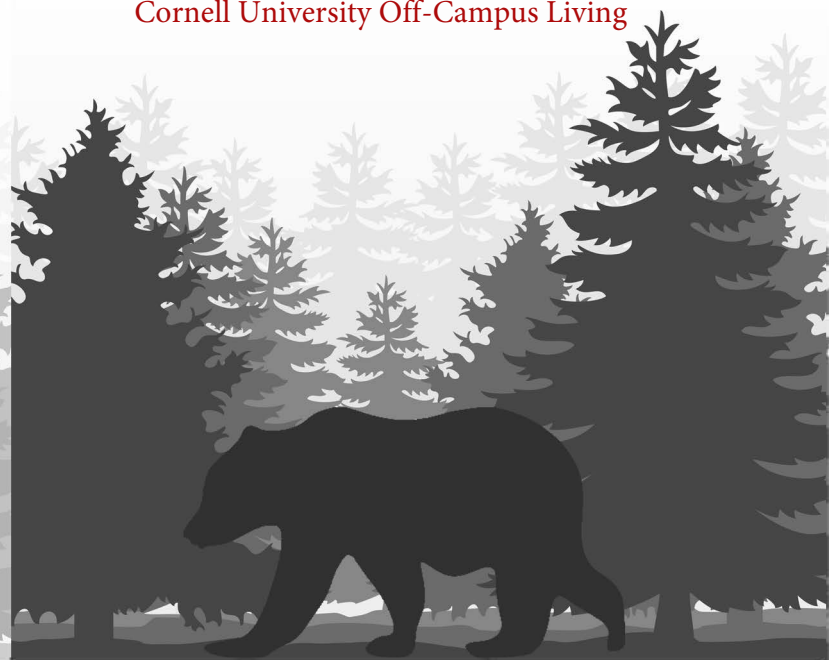
A Cornell-Ithaca  
Neighborhood Partnership

Walk to build community!

Please join us for a Community Fair on  
Freedom with Responsibility!  
September 14th, 2023 | 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm  
Frank E. Gannett Plaza

### SPONSORED BY

The City of Ithaca  
Collegetown Small Business Alliance  
Cornell University Student and Campus Life  
Uncle Marty's Shipping Office  
Cornell University Policy Department  
St. Luke Lutheran Church  
Cornell University Off-Campus Living



# PARTY SAFE PARTY SMART

**Know the rules:** You must be 21 to drink alcohol legally

**Stick to the buzz:** If you drink alcohol, eat before you party, stick to beer, set a limit, avoid shots and chugging, and drink plenty of water.

**Be a good host:** Serve non-alcoholic beverages and plenty of snacks. Don't serve alcohol to minors. Let neighbors know about your party so they can contact you directly if needed.

**Watch out for others:** Keep an eye on those who may need to take a break or find a safe way home.

**Call 911 for the ABCS's of Alcohol Emergencies:**

**Alertness:** Be concerned if someone is unconscious, passed out, or unresponsive

**Breathing:** Watch for slow or irregular breathing

**Clammy:** Notice if skin is off color (blue, pale) or clammy

**Doubts:** Log doubts and concerns, if other drugs were involved, if there is a possible head injury or trauma, if you are unsure for any reason.

If any of these apply, do the right thing and call for help, alcohol emergencies can be fatal.

**Be a Good Samaritan:** When you call 911 for help, the Good Samaritan campus protocol and NYS law will mitigate judicial and/or legal consequences for underage drinking and use of other drugs. Please call for help when you notice someone is severely intoxicated or has a serious injury after consuming alcohol or other drugs. Learn more at [GoodSam.cornell.edu](http://GoodSam.cornell.edu)

# OBEY THE LAWS

**The City of Ithaca's Noise Ordinance:** prohibits unreasonable noise between 10 p.m. and 7:30 a.m. First-time violators of the ordinance face up to a \$500 fine or imprisonment of not more than 15 days, and not less than a \$100 fine for 25 hours of community service. The fine may be levied against any or all residents in a house or apartment and penalties increase for repeat offenders. The full text of the ordinance can be found on-line at <http://www.cityofithaca.org/> under "Announcements"

**The Open Container Law:** It's illegal to carry an open container of alcohol on city sidewalks, streets, and parks. First-time violators face up to a \$250 fine or imprisonment of not more than 15 days, and not less than a \$100 fine or 25 hours of community service.

**State Laws Pertaining to House Parties:**

- Persons under 21 are prohibited from possessing any alcoholic beverage with the intent to consume. Violators are subject to a fine of up to \$50 per offense plus 30 hours of community service and the cost for completion of an alcohol awareness program.
- It is a Class A misdemeanor to give an alcoholic beverage to anyone under the age of 21. Penalties for violation may result in jail term of up to one-year and/or a fine of up to \$1000
- No person shall sell or offer for sale any alcoholic beverage without obtaining the appropriate license. This is also a Class S misdemeanor, but in addition to the above-noted penalties, a violator may be fined two times the county's liquor license fee, totaling several thousand dollars.
- **CIVIL LIABILITY:** If someone drinks at your party and hurts someone afterward, you can be sued.

