

A Neighbor's Guide: Relations with University Students in the Neighborhood

[Noise, yard maintenance, etc.]

Prepared by

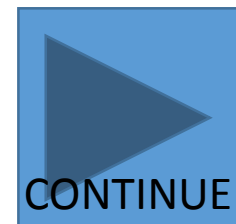
Chuck Elkins

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The information provided here has been reviewed for accuracy by the respective universities, but the author is responsible for the content.

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Neighborhood Problems with University Students

- 99% of university students living in our neighborhood are well-behaved and are an asset to the community.
- Occasionally, some students demonstrate poor judgment in their conduct and become a cause for concern to neighbors because of....
 - Noise
 - Underage drinking and narcotics
 - Trash
 - Failure to maintain the yard
 - Parking
 - Use of local parks after dark

If normal neighbor-to-neighbor discussions fail, the following procedures are in place to deal with these problems politely and effectively.



Which university's students may be involved?

- Do you know which university(ies) these students attend (click one)?
 - [American University \(AU\)](#)
 - [Georgetown University \(GU\)](#)
 - [George Washington University \(GW\)](#)
 - [Several Universities or You do not know](#)

If More than One University's Students may be involved or you do not know

You may not always know which university the students attend or you may know they attend more than one university. Here is what we would recommend you do:

- If you know the schools the students attend, then for the purposes of this information package, choose the first one in the list that you know is represented:
 - [Georgetown University](#)
 - [American University](#)
 - [George Washington University](#)
- If you don't know, start at the top of the list. Both GU and AU can tell you, from the address, whether their students are involved. GW may be able to tell you, but not immediately.

American University



CONTINUE



Click the type of problem you need help with

- [Noise](#) (parties, music, late-night talking on the sidewalk, etc.) [in off-campus housing](#)
- [Noise from the campus](#) (athletic fields, etc.)
- [Under-age drinking](#)
- Poor [yard maintenance](#) at off-campus housing
- [Trash](#) at off-campus housing
- [Parking](#) of student cars in the neighborhood
- Use of [local parks](#) after Dark



Off-campus Noise from off-campus students

- If this noise is taking place right now and you would like some immediate relief, [click here.](#)
- If this noise is periodic and you would like some long-term relief, [click here.](#)



Immediate Relief from AU student noise

- AU advises that you should call the Metropolitan police (MPD) at 911. (You should also call AU—see next page)
 - Give a specific address of the student housing, if possible.
 - The police are obligated to come at your request, but they seldom issue a citation for a first report, if violations are not egregious.
 - The police will not reveal your identity, unless you give them your permission.
 - The police will investigate, and if they deem the situation serious, they will intervene (ask the students to quiet down, or in extreme cases, terminate the party).
 - If police determine that AU students are involved, they will notify AU Campus Police, who will also respond and write a report that will result in a meeting with university officials or disciplinary action.
 - You should request a written police report.





You should also call American University

- Also call AU Campus Police at 202-855-2527, after calling the MPD at 911. Here's why :
 - AU Campus Police will be able to verify that AU students live at the address you are reporting.
 - AU Campus Police will be able to respond without waiting for MPD to call them, and therefore be more likely to arrive on the scene while MPD is still assessing the situation so that they can help, as needed.
 - You can provide more information about the incident to the Campus Police than the MPD will request when you call 911.
 - If you call AU, they will be able to follow up with you after the incident.
 - Here is information that is helpful to AU Campus Police, if you know it.

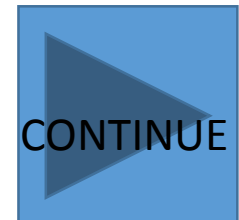




Information AU would like to have

- Specific address of problem property
- Detailed description of behaviors/conditions observed
- Description of tenants (organization letters, team uniforms, males, females, etc.)
- Names of any tenants
- Name and contact info of landlord or property manager
- License plate number(s) of tenants Name and contact info of caller (will not be shared with students without permission)

Here is what you can expect AU to do in cases like this:





What to expect from American University

- AU Campus Police will write a report of the incident and provide it to the Dean of Students.
- AU Dean of Students staff will normally meet with the students within the week and lay out the University's expectations for student conduct that complies with the Student Conduct Code and Good Neighbor Guidelines.
- If sport teams or fraternities/ sororities are involved, administrators that work with these activities will be informed and will take additional actions, as appropriate.
- Students will learn that a second incident can result in disciplinary action.
- AU Dean of students staff will normally report back to the neighbor to close the loop.
- AU staff may contact the landlord to ask for his/her assistance in problem resolution.
- Disciplinary action can involve community service, restrictions on activities, probation or, ultimately suspension or expulsion from the University.





Whom Else to Contact

- You should also contact your ANC representative so that he/she is aware of the problem and perhaps able to help.
 - If you don't know who your ANC representative is, you can find out here:
 - Go to <http://dcatlas.dcgis.dc.gov/mar/> Type in your address to find your Single Member district. Search that ANC district number in google.
- You can also contact the author of these materials, Chuck Elkins, who is a resident of Wesley Heights so that he can be aware of the problem and perhaps help. His email address is Elkinsenv@AOL.com. Include "Off Campus Housing" in your subject line.





Non-immediate Issues with AU students

- AU students who plan to live off-campus are asked to attend an orientation session at the beginning of the year. Students are informed of both their rights as tenants and their obligations to be good neighbors.
 - Topics addressed include noise, yard maintenance, trash and recycling, and parking.
 - AU officials are available to neighbors to remind students of their obligations and to help to remedy situations that are annoying to neighbors.
- You may:
 - Call (202) 885-3300
 - Email dos@American.edu
 - File a complaint/request on-line at:
american-advocate.symplicity.com/neighbor/index.php/pid852771
- You can find out more at: <http://www.american.edu/communityrelations>





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Noise coming from the AU Campus

- You should notify the university of a noise problem taking place now, call the AU Campus Police at (202) 885-2527 (non-emergency) or (202) 885-3636 (emergency). (24/7)

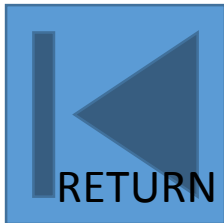
(During normal business hours, you can also talk to university staff about a recurring noise problem. Call the AU Dean of Students at 202-885-3300.



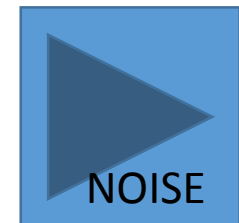


Reporting Suspected Illegal Activity to the Metropolitan Police Department (911)

- Report public drinking or illegal narcotics use in public space (e.g. on the sidewalk, street, parks).
- Report large amounts of alcohol being taken into a house where you suspect underage drinking is taking place.
- If you suspect or know of a business (restaurants, liquor stores, clubs) selling alcohol to underage persons, you should notify the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration at (202) 442-4423 or at abra@dc.gov
- Report loud parties, public drinking or illegal narcotics use, and underage drinking to the Metropolitan Police Department 911. Provide the specific address for private residences/apts and a detailed description of your observations. FOLLOW THE “NOISE” LINK BELOW.



“See Something Say Something”



Georgetown University





Click the type of problem you need help with

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Off-campus Noise from off-campus students

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Immediate Relief from GU student noise

- You should call GU's HELP LINE at 202-687-8413

[Of course, if you see something dangerous, dial 911]

- GU has set a presumption that if off-campus sound can be heard beyond a property line, it is probably too noisy and disturbing to the community, depending on the time and nature of the activity.
- GU sets “quiet hours for off-campus activities of between 10 PM and 7 AM all nights of the week.
- GU keeps a list of student addresses and contact numbers for those living off campus.
- GU has an active patrol program call the Student Neighborhood Assistance Program (SNAP) in which university staff pro-actively patrol student off-campus housing on weekends.
- GU policies specify very specific penalties for violations, some of them more severe than if the violation were to take place on campus.





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Non-immediate Issues with GU students

- GU students who plan to live off-campus are required to attend an orientation session at the beginning of the year. Students are informed of both their rights as tenants and their obligations to be good neighbors.
 - Topics addressed include noise, yard maintenance, trash and recycling, and parking.
- GU has explicit policies and sanctions regarding such things as improper yard maintenance.
- You may call the Office of Neighborhood Life at 202-687-5138 or email them at neighborhoodlife@Georgetown.edu
- You can learn more at <https://studentliving.georgetown.edu/off-campus>





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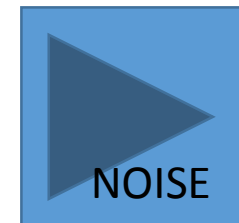
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Reporting Suspected Illegal Activity to the Metropolitan Police Department (911)

- Report public drinking or illegal narcotics use in public space (e.g. on the sidewalk, street, parks).
- Report large amounts of alcohol being taken into a house where you suspect underage drinking is taking place.
- If you suspect or know of a business (restaurants, liquor stores, clubs) selling alcohol to underage persons, you should notify the Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration at (202) 442-4423 or at abra@dc.gov
- Report loud parties, public drinking or illegal narcotics use, and underage drinking to the Metropolitan Police Department 911. Provide the specific address for private residences/apts and a detailed description of your observations. FOLLOW THE “NOISE” LINK BELOW.



George Washington University





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- Under-age drinking
- Poor yard maintenance at off-campus housing
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- Parking of student cars in the neighborhood
- Use of local parks after Dark



Off-campus Noise from off-campus students

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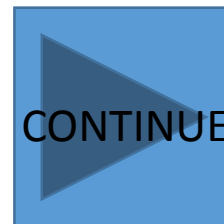


Immediate Relief from GW student noise

- You should call the GW hotline at 202-242-6110

[Of course, if you see something dangerous, dial 911]

- They will route the concern to the Metropolitan Police Department and to their office of Student Rights and Responsibilities.
- GW has provided its students with suggestions for how to be a good neighbor when having a party in the neighborhood.
- GW has explicit sanctions for violations of the student code of conduct including alcohol.





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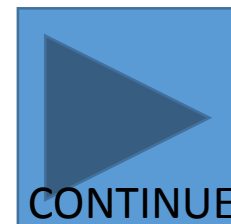
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Non-immediate Issues with GW students

- GW students who plan to live off-campus are required to take an on-line orientation session at the beginning of the year. Students are informed of both their rights as tenants and their obligations to be good neighbors.
- You may call the Office of Government and Community Relations at [202-994-9132](tel:202-994-9132) or email the University at discover@gwu.edu
- There is also an on-line complaint form that you can use at <https://neighborhood.gwu.edu/online-reporting-form> (look at the bottom of the page)
- You can learn more at <http://neighborhood.gwu.edu/>





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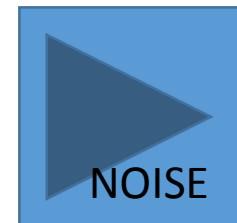
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Use of Local Parks After Dark

- Our local parks are normally closed after dark, for obvious reasons.
- If students or others use a local park after it closes, we are advised that you should:
 - Call 911, indicate it is a non-emergency, and ask the police to investigate.
 - If the park is administered by the US Park Police (e.g. Battery Kemble and Glover Archbold Park) call US Park Police Communications at 202-610-7500 or if you don't remember this number, call 911 and ask to be transferred to the US Park Police.

