

Bloomington and Normal Community Standards for Social Hosts



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Our twin cities of Bloomington and Normal are a wonderful place to live, work and visit. With the support of strong financial, agricultural, insurance, medical and manufacturing industries, along with four institutions of higher education and a regional government center, we enjoy excellent quality of life and a strong economy. We are often told that our community truly exemplifies the values of the Midwest: friendly, welcoming, and genuinely concerned for the well-being of others. It was out of those values that the Bloomington-Normal Community Campus Committee (BNCCC) was formed to address issues related to the misuse of alcohol among our younger populations.

The BNCCC draws upon the support of the universities, local government and law enforcement, public school districts, health services providers, social service agencies and the business community to research and formulate responses to binge drinking by underage youth, college students and young adults. Misuse of alcohol occasionally leads to negative consequences and conflicting lifestyles among residents.

The BNCCC's overarching goal is to foster an environment where we live well together. That's why we've developed this Community Standards Guide. We have included vital information here to help encourage positive, safe social interaction. Normal and Bloomington work closely together to ensure our ordinances and regulations reflect the standards for good citizenship that are found here. We hope this guide will help you understand your role in developing positive relationships with those around you and assist in making your time in our community enjoyable.



Jeff Fritzen
Normal Town Council

Karen Schmidt
Bloomington City Council

Welcome to the Town of Normal, We are Glad You are Here!

Living in the Town of Normal you will notice right away we are a community that is rich in history, diversity and life experiences and eager to include you and or your family in every aspect of community life.

Being a good neighbor is an important aspect of life in our community. Being a good neighbor includes having mutual respect for property, privacy, and lifestyles of others within your new community. A good neighbor also shows a willingness to accommodate differences between neighbors that is beneficial for the entire neighborhood and town with safety and well being of our neighbors as a primary concern.

Once you become a resident of the Town of Normal take the time to learn about town ordinances and permits, especially if you plan on having a gathering that would include extra parking needs or entertainment.

Once you get moved in and settled, take the time to walk around your local community and introduce yourself to your neighbors to open the lines of communication. If minor problems arise between neighbors, a good direct line of communication may be all that is needed to resolve conflicts and preserve lasting relationships for years to come. By opening yourself up to the community, not only will you make lasting friendships between neighbors, but you will also learn about many community programs available.

Neighbors that are interested in getting involved in their community may wish to involve themselves in Neighborhood Watch Program, NAN, Bring It Back to Normal, All About Normal, Citizens Police Academy or other town committees. Getting involved in your community and neighborhood are good ways to get to know other neighbors and at the same time give back to your community.

The Neighbors Association of Normal is glad you moved to one of our neighborhoods. We hope you will get involved in your local neighborhood and forge lasting relationships and friendships.



Neighbors Association of Normal
<http://nan238.tripod.com>

Dawn M. Wilson, President
Charles Alsberry, Vice-President
Judy Scott, Secretary-Treasurer

"I have neighbors who help when they see you out working. One brought his chain saw when he saw me chopping down a tree. Another brings his snow blower to help clear my driveway faster. I will help them any way I can. Several of us exchange baked goods because we are grateful for each others' helping hands. We look out for each other. This is Normal."

Adrienne Simms
Resident of Normal

"I really appreciate living in Normal. From the very beginning, when I first moved to this area in 1993, I've had a feeling of being at home. I like the combination of the small-town sense of personal connections and the "urban" access to amenities such as shopping and cultural events."

"I've also been very impressed with the efforts of Normal elected officials and staff members: they are extremely dedicated to making Normal a great place to live, they make themselves accessible to residents, and they always take a positive approach to the challenges of the job. The more I learn about Normal, the more grateful I am that I have a home here."

Liz Hoisington
Resident of Normal

Being a Responsible Neighbor

A neighbor is more than just the people next door. It could be the apartment above or below yours. It could be the entire neighborhood surrounding your residence. It could be people on another street whose home backs up to the house you're renting. It could be the people who live blocks away from your fraternity house but who drive past your place every day on their way to work or to take their children to school or daycare. In other words, we're all neighbors and have a stake in how behaviors affect others or how they impact the community appearance.

Your choices impact those who live around you. If some of your choices set you apart as not a responsible neighbor you will eventually hear about it through a visit from the police department. The best bet is to get to know your neighbors, finding out about community standards regarding noise, litter, parking, and other issues. Developing great working relationships with your neighbors will make them more willing to communicate with you when there's a problem rather than simply calling the police.

The Bloomington and Normal Police Departments frequently look for parties through their various patrols. Their mission is to respond to neighborhood complaints and return order to parties that are out of control. They also issue citations for any infractions they may find, including a Disorderly House, which could warrant a call to your landlord and make renting in the future difficult.

Registered students at any of the four local universities and colleges are held to their respective Student Code of Conduct by their university or college. Both the Bloomington and Normal Police report all citations to local college students to the appropriate Office of Student Judicial Affairs or Dean of Students office, who may add university sanctions to your legal consequences.

Sometimes, neighbors are more likely to complain when they see your house or apartment as an eyesore to the neighborhood – having a party just adds fuel to the fire. Clean up the porch – get rid of the old couch, pick up litter, and keep the yard trim. It'll make a big difference with the neighbors.



Everyone likes to have a good time. But in addition to being a fun host you also have a responsibility to be a good citizen and mature host. Use these tips to help ensure your party is fun AND safe.

If Serving Alcohol

- Do not provide alcohol to those under the legal drinking age.
- Remember that you can be held legally responsible for your underage guests' behavior after they leave your party.
- Not carding or having a "No Under-21" sign at your party does not absolve you of responsibility and you could be charged by police for providing alcohol to minors.
- Collecting money at your party to help cover alcohol costs (selling cups, taking donations, selling beer, etc.) is illegal.

Before the Party

- Have a guest list. Limit your party to those you know to prevent unwanted behavior and problems.
- Discuss ending time with roommates. Decide who will end the party.
- Appoint a sober monitor. The monitor's job is to turn away uninvited guests, help enforce house rules, talk with the police if they show up, and watch for drunk drivers.
- Educate yourself about local ordinances for noise, mass gatherings, and alcohol.
- Lock valuables away.
- Notify your neighbors before the day of the party and provide them a contact number(s) in case any issues arise.
- Discuss which food and non-alcoholic drinks you will be serving.

During the Party

- Check IDs. Ensure those drinking are legal drinking age. Not carding does not release you from legal responsibilities!
- Monitor your guests' alcohol consumption. Plan how you will intervene to slow down a guest who is drinking too much.
- Call 911 immediately in a case of an emergency.
- Monitor noise levels, parking, trespassing, littering, public urination, and other possible violations to avoid having police called.
- If police arrive, make sure the monitor is the first person the officer sees.
- Allow officers to do their job without interference. Follow all police instructions.

Ending The Party

- Tell the monitor to stay by the door to turn away any new guests.
- Turn on the lights.
- Change the music or turn it off.
- Stop serving alcohol. Serve only soda, water, or coffee.
- End the party and ensure guests get home safely.
- Make sure intoxicated guests are not driving.
- Call a taxi, have guests sleep over, or have the sober monitor(s) drive your intoxicated guests' home.
- Encourage guests to leave in small groups of three to four. This will help prevent excessive noise.

After The Party

- Make sure your yard and your neighbors' yards are free from trash, cups, and bottles.
- Talk with your neighbors to see if they experienced any problems from the party. If so, discuss calmly to see how you can resolve the situation.

Alcohol poisoning

As a party host, you are responsible for your guests' health. Here are signs that indicate alcohol poisoning, which, if untreated, can lead to death:

- Cold, bluish, clammy skin
- Unresponsive (you can't wake them up)
- Shallow and/or irregular breathing
- Vomiting
- "Snoring" sounds
- Mixing alcohol with medications or drugs
- Collapsing after drinking
- Vomiting and choking

What to do – **Call 911 immediately!**

Do not give the person food or water or your guest may choke.

5 Things that Will Bring the Police to Your Party

If you have followed the outline for “Hosting A Responsible Party” then you have reduced the chances of a visit from the police. However, everyone loves a great party, and even the best planned party can run into problems and the fun can stop once the police come due to neighborhood complaints. Here are five common reasons why the police get called. Knowing them will help you avoid the problem.

- **Too many people, too little space.**

Word gets out there's a party and suddenly 200 people show up in a space made for 50. The noise causes neighbors to complain. Best bet: No open invitations. Monitor who attends.

- **The party moves outside.**

Once the party moves outside, there's a greater potential for noise problems and potential damage to neighborhood yards. Encourage guests to come in or leave – hanging around cars or on the street, especially with alcohol in hand, is an open invitation for enforcement.

- **Toilets become optional.**

Gross as it sounds, a common complaint from neighbors is urinating in yards, alleys, and everywhere BUT the toilet. As you can imagine, the neighbors and police are NOT impressed when your guests can't hold it until they get to the bathroom.

- **You charge at the door (or anywhere else).**

You can't charge for alcohol in any way, even when calling it a charge for cups, music, etc.

- **The crowd includes minors.**

You will get cited for supplying alcohol to minors. They may think that your place is a safe place for drinking, but you pay for their crime. Keep minors out, especially high school students.

Quick Reference to Local Laws and Ordinances

Sure, there's a way to get around every law and policy. But avoiding the consequences of getting caught can come with a price. Many students have died or become seriously ill when friends "hid" the problem to avoid enforcement. The legal liability for concealing a crime, or keeping someone from the help they need, is ALWAYS worse than the original citation you were trying to avoid. Although the goal of this information about the law and the way it's enforced is designed to help you make smarter choices, we also have to warn you that playing the "how far can I go before I get caught" game can lead to serious consequences and bigger problems. We encourage you to make good initial choices – and act in a way that reduces all your risks. You can break the law, but it may just not be worth it.

Here is a quick reference to just some of the local ordinances pertaining to alcohol consumption.

Town of Normal	
ORDINANCE	FINE
Possession of Open Alcohol in Public	\$275
Unlawful Possession of Alcohol by Minor	\$275
Unlawful Consumption of Alcohol by Minor	\$275
Noise within a Multiple Family Structure	\$100
Unlawful Use of Sound Amplifying Device	\$100
Urination in Public	\$100
Unlawful Sale of Alcohol (Private)	\$750
Furnishing Alcohol to a Minor	\$350
Violation of Keg Registration	No Set Fine
Possession of Fraudulent ID	\$275
Presenting False ID	\$275
Misrepresentation of Age	\$275

City of Bloomington	
ORDINANCE	FINE
Illegal Possession of Alcoholic Liquor	\$250
Possession of Open Alcohol in Public	\$250
Illegal Consumption of Alcohol	\$250
Public Intoxication	\$100
Disorderly Conduct	\$100
Public Urination	\$100
Illegal Purchase/Procurement of Alcohol	\$250
Illegal Gift, Sale, Delivery of Alcohol to a Minor	\$250
Violation of Keg Registration	No Set Fine
Disorderly House	\$100
Use of Fraudulent Identification	\$250



Campus and Community Resources

Heartland Community College – On Campus

- Dean of Student Affairs: 309-268-8042
- Personal Development Services: 309-268-8029
- Prevention Specialist Office: 309-268-8029
- HCC Security: 309-268-8300, or 8300 from Campus Phones

ISU – On Campus

- Dean of Students Office: 309-438-2008
- Off-Campus, Nontraditional and Parent Services: 309-438-5951
- Student Counseling Services: 309-438-3655
- Students' Attorney: 309-438-5951
- Student Health Services: 309-438-2778
- Illinois State University Police: 309-438-8631

IWU – On Campus

- Dean of Students Office: 309-556-3111
- Counseling and Consultation Services: 309-556-3052
(After 4:30 call PATH: 309-827-4005, or IWU Security)
- Arnold Health Services: 309-556-3107
(After 4:30 call Advocate-BroMenn Emergency Room)
- IWU Security: 309-556-1111
- Fire/Rescue: 911

Lincoln College – On Campus

- Residential Life CELL (24 Hour Service): 309-826-0500
- Campus Security Office: 309-268-4325
- Front Desk - Academic Building: 309-452-0500
- Lincoln College-Lincoln Campus: 217-732-3155, 800-569-0556

Community – Off Campus

- Advocate-BroMenn Hospital Emergency Room: 309-454-0742
- St. Joseph Medical Center Emergency Room: 309-662-3311
- Bloomington Police Department (Non-Emergency): 309-434-2700
- Normal Police Department (Non-Emergency): 309-888-5030
- Emergency: 911
- Poison Control: 309-454-6666
- PATH Crisis Center: 309-827-4005
- Stepping Stones: 309-662-0461
- Countering Domestic Violence: 309-827-7070
- Chestnut Health Systems: 309-827-6026

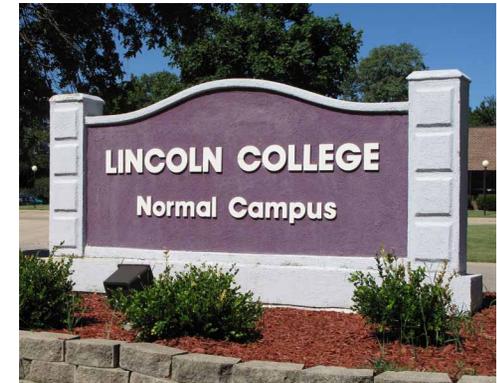
About the Bloomington Normal Community Campus Committee

The Bloomington Normal Community Campus Committee (BNCCC) started in January of 2005 with the mission to “reduce high-risk drinking among Bloomington-Normal students.”

The BNCCC makes the community-campus connection in Bloomington-Normal. The members consist of representatives from all four universities/colleges, Normal Police Department, Bloomington Police Department, McLean County Sheriff’s Department, ISU Police Department, Project Oz, Student Government Association of ISU, Chestnut Health Systems, Advocate BroMenn Regional Medical Center, OSF St. Joseph Hospital, Bloomington School District 87, Normal Unit 5, Normal Town Council, Bloomington City Council, Bloomington Liquor Commission, McLean County Coroner, Meredith’s Properties and the Neighbors Association of Normal.



Bloomington Normal Community Campus Committee
c/o Chestnut Health Systems
448 Wylie Dr.
Normal, IL 61761
Phone: 309-451-7816
www.bnccc.org



How and When to Help a Friend or Neighbor

Having a drinking problem does not mean that a person is alcoholic, or addicted to alcohol. The person may only need to cut down rather than abstain. Many find the idea of drinking in moderation more acceptable and achievable than abstaining entirely from alcohol. The decision whether to reduce drinking to moderate levels or abstain entirely from alcohol is best made after consulting with a doctor. Helping a person who drinks too much takes knowledge, compassion and patience. Some actions are helpful and others are not. Remember that changing behavior, especially becoming an abstainer, is very difficult. Be understanding and patient, but don't accept any responsibility or guilt for the behavior of another person. You are responsible only for your own behavior.

DO

- Try to remain calm, unemotional and factually honest about how the person's drinking abuse impacts you and others.
- Discuss the problem with someone you trust – a friend, clergy person, social worker, or someone who has experienced alcohol abuse or alcoholism either personally or as a family member.
- Try to maintain a healthy, normal atmosphere around the problem drinker.
- Encourage new interests and participate in leisure activities that the problem drinker enjoys and encourage the person to see old friends in non-drinking situations.
- Be patient and live one day at a time. Changing behavior is difficult, setbacks and relapses are to be expected. Try to accept them with calm understanding and don't become discouraged.

DON'T

- Punish, threaten, bribe, preach, or try to be a martyr. Avoid emotional appeals that may only increase the problem drinker's feelings of guilt and compulsion to drink.
- Cover up or make excuses for an alcoholic or shield a person from the consequences of alcohol abuse.
- Take over the responsibilities of an abuser of alcohol.
- Hide or dump bottles of alcohol, or shelter a problem drinker from situations where alcohol is present.
- Argue with a person who is intoxicated, or drink with an alcohol abuser.
- Accept guilt for the behavior of a problem drinker.

WARNING SIGNS

- **CHANGES IN DRINKING PATTERNS.** The person drinks more or more often, or drinks in the morning.
- **CHANGES IN APPEARANCE.** The person frequently or usually smells of alcohol, has slurred speech, bloodshot eyes, unexplained bruises, or unkempt appearances.
- **CHANGES IN PERSONALITY.** The person suffers memory loss, sleep problems, mood swings, irritability, distrust, missed classes or lack in activities earlier enjoyed.
- **HEALTH PROBLEMS.** The person suffers from frequent hangovers, chronic digestive problems, fatigue, or shaky hands.

CAGE ASSESSMENT

- Have you ever felt you ought to **CUT** down on your drinking?
- Have people **ANNOYED** you by criticizing your drinking?
- Have you ever felt bad or **GUILTY** about your drinking?
- Have you ever had a drink first thing in the morning to steady your nerves or to get rid of a hangover (**EYE OPENER**)?

IF YOU ANSWER YES TO TWO OR MORE OF THESE QUESTIONS, YOU MAY HAVE A PROBLEM WITH ALCOHOL.

0013

In 2010, **53%** of Bloomington Normal students reported engaging in **heavy drinking**.

Heavy drinking is defined as **five or more drinks in one sitting** at least once during a two week period. Recognizing the growing national, state and local trend in high risk drinking the BNCCC began implementing a responsible drinking program called 0013 with the goal of decreasing alcohol related consequences.

What does **0013** mean?

The **FIRST AND SECOND ZEROS** restate the law of **zero underage alcohol use and zero driving while under the influence**. The **ONE** indicates **one drink per hour*** as that is the maximum the liver can process. The **THREE** stands for **no more than three drinks per evening** of alcohol use.

The concept behind 0013 is to encourage responsible alcohol consumption among Bloomington Normal residents in order to create a common social norm.

***ONE DRINK =**

one 12 oz. beer at four to five percent alcohol,
one 1.5 oz. shot of 80-proof alcohol, or
one 5 oz. glass of wine at 11 percent alcohol



0 driving under the influence
0 underage drinking
1 alcoholic beverage per hour
3 drinks a day max if you do choose to drink

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Illinois State University
Illinois Wesleyan University
Heartland Community College
Lincoln College
Normal Police Department
Bloomington Police Department
McLean County Sheriff's Department
ISU Police Department
Project Oz
Student Government Association of ISU
Chestnut Health Systems
Advocate BroMenn Regional Medical Center
OSF St. Joseph Hospital
Bloomington School District 87
Normal Unit 5
Normal Town Council
Bloomington City Council
Bloomington Liquor Commission
McLean County Coroner
Meredith's Properties
Neighbors Association of Normal



BLOOMINGTON NORMAL
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