



Why do we need a community agreement?

Setting clear expectations and having health communication are important in building strong relationships among members of a community. To encourage these important conversations, and provide a building block for discussions down the road, cottage and apartment residents are asked to complete this agreement. This agreement is kept for review and changes needed by any community member throughout the year. Residential Life staff are available to assist with any disagreements or to help process any situation that may arise in your unit during the year.

Within the first week of classes, your RA will facilitate a meeting with all residents of the unit to discuss the following areas. As a group, come to a consensus and write down your thoughts in the space provided. Please be thoughtful and specific about your feelings and what you have agreed upon. RAs, please turn this in to your NC/AC when it has been completed.

SLEEPING ENVIRONMENT

How much sleep do we need on a nightly basis? How do we feel about noise, lights, etc. in our bedrooms while sleeping? How do we feel about noise in the living room, kitchen, etc. while sleeping? Other thoughts?

STUDYING ENVIRONMENT

When do we like to study? What are noise tolerances when studying? Which room(s) will be study areas? Other thoughts?

CLEANING, CLEANLINESS, USE OF SPACE

How often will rooms be cleaned (living room, kitchen, bathroom(s), bedrooms, etc.)? Who will do what to clean? What are our expectations with general cleanliness of the rooms and personal belongings (messy, casual, spotless, etc.)? How often will we remove trash? How do we divide storage space in the kitchen, bathroom(s), basement, etc.? How will we wash dishes? *(Please keep the Cottage Cleanliness Standards in mind when completing this section).* Other thoughts?

USE OF PERSONAL ITEMS/SECURITY

What items can be shared with/without permission? What items may not be used by roommates? What will we do with items purchased together for the unit? What is our stance on other's access to our bedrooms and items? What is our stance on keeping doors or windows open/closed/locked during the day/night? Other thoughts?

GUESTS AND VISITATION HOURS

How often can guests come over/be in the unit? When are good/bad times for guests? Does there need to be advance warning or discussion before guests visit? What are expectations about guests of the opposite gender (*please note that College policy is that guests of the opposite sex are allowed between 10 am and 12 am on weeknights and 10 am and 2 am on weekends*). Other thoughts?

COMMUNICATION

How do we agree to communicate with each other when there is a problem or concern? What do we feel comfortable talking about or not talking about? If someone calls or stops by, how will we take messages? Other thoughts?

We, the residents of _____ Cottage/Apartment agree that we have completed this Community Agreement honestly and sincerely. We agree to seek out assistance from Residential Life staff if we have tried to address a situation on our own, but need further help. We agree not to ignore issues or concerns in the unit which could escalate the situation rather than solve it.

Signatures of residents:

NC/AC's collect all Community Agreements and keep them for residents to reference throughout the year. A copy will also be returned to you to keep in your unit.