

# Being A Good Neighbour

—  
A guideline to “Being A Good Neighbor”



3	Being A Responsible Community Member
3	Connecting With Your Neighbors
4	Parking Your Car In Your Neighborhood
5	Waste Collection In Your Neighborhood
6	Maintaining The Appearance of Your Property
6	Maintaining Your Property During Winter
7	Being A Considerate Neighbor
8	Renting In Ontario and Signing Your Lease
9	Fire Safety In Your Community
9	Personal Safety In Your Community

Please note that the information provided in the 'Being A Good Neighbour' guide is for general information purposes only and does not constitute legal or professional advice. It is highly recommended that you conduct your own research and seek legal advice and/or support from the appropriate resources described throughout this guide.

# Being A Responsible Community Member

Welcome to Algoma U's guide on Being A Good Neighbour! As a Good Neighbour, you can positively impact your fellow students and the Algoma U community by working together. This guide provides tips on how to be a good neighbour both on campus and in the community.

**It is crucial to be considerate and respectful towards your neighbours.**

We encourage all Algoma U students to be Good Neighbours in the cities they reside in, whether it's Sault Ste. Marie, Brampton, Mississauga, or any other place. This extends to the surrounding campus areas and even when visiting nearby establishments. It is important that we demonstrate kindness, respect, and integrity as Algoma U students in the community.

---



# Connecting With Your Neighbors

Forming meaningful connections is the first step towards building good relationships with your neighbours. By taking the time to get to know your neighbours, you can develop a sense of community and create a comfortable living environment.

**Saying “hello” is all it takes to start building connections.**

As a new neighbour, it's important to introduce yourself to your neighbours and get to know them. Consider exchanging contact information with your closest neighbours, so you can stay in touch and be available if they need to reach you.

Lead by example and be the neighbour you would like to have. If you notice a new community member, reach out to say hello, or offer your help if they have their hands full. A little kindness can go a long way in building a strong community.

In some cases, conflicts may arise between you and your neighbours. When faced with difficult situations, it's important to talk things over. Welcome any concerns they might have and try to handle the situation politely. Being considerate and respectful means being prepared to listen with an open mind. By working together, you can find a solution that works for everyone involved.

---

# Parking Your Car In Your Neighborhood

Parking in the correct spot is essential to avoid getting tickets and allowing your neighbours to pass safely. Here are some tips to consider:

- Before bringing a vehicle to the property, ensure there is enough space for your car and that parking is permitted in the lease. Also, make sure there is an appropriate parking space for each vehicle and avoid parking on the grass. It is crucial never to park in front of a fire hydrant, as it obstructs Fire and Emergency Crews from accessing the hydrant in case of an emergency and can also result in a ticket. Parking within three meters of a fire hydrant is not allowed.
- During winter, it's important to avoid parking on the street when it snows, as your car can block the snowplough. Wait to park on the street until it has been salted or ploughed. If you or your guests need to park your car on the street, you can register the license plate online for a certain number of days per year to avoid getting a ticket.

By following these tips, you can be a good neighbour and ensure that you and your guests are parking in the right places, allowing your neighbours to pass safely, and avoiding getting tickets.



## Do's and Don'ts When Parking In Your Neighborhood

- To be a good neighbour, it's important to ensure that your vehicle does not block the sidewalk, allowing your neighbours to have walking space.
- Avoid parking on the front lawn, across the sidewalk, or overhanging on the curb. Instead, you can park horizontally between the sidewalk and the roadway.
- Remember that you are responsible for your guests, so make sure they are also leaving a good impression in the neighbourhood by parking correctly.

For more specific parking information in your city, visit the links below:

[Sault Ste. Marie](#) >

[Brampton](#) >

[Mississauga](#) >

# Waste Collection In Your Neighborhood

Respecting the environment and the cleanliness of a neighbourhood is an essential value of a Good Neighbour and that starts with waste collection.



## Unsure about the waste collection day

If you are unsure about the waste collection day or where a particular item goes, you can check out the Waste Collection Schedule and Waste Sorting Guide for your region.

It is important to properly sort and dispose of waste to reduce the impact on the environment and maintain a clean and healthy community.

For residents of Sault Ste. Marie, Brampton and Mississauga, garbage and recycling services are managed by the Region of Peel. Make sure to follow the guidelines provided by your local waste management authority to ensure proper and responsible waste disposal.

[Sault Ste. Marie](#) >

[Brampton](#) >

[Mississauga](#) >

As a responsible resident, it is important to dispose of your waste properly.

- Your landlord should provide you with appropriate containers for garbage and recycling items.
- It is also important to remember to put your waste out by 7 a.m. and make sure the bins are not overflowing.
- Once the waste has been collected, remember to collect your bins and pick up any items that may have blown away.
- If you're moving, there are special rules for disposing of large items such as a mattress or a couch.
- If you live in a high-rise building and have any waste-related queries, please speak to your property manager for more details.

## Maintaining The Appearance of Your Property



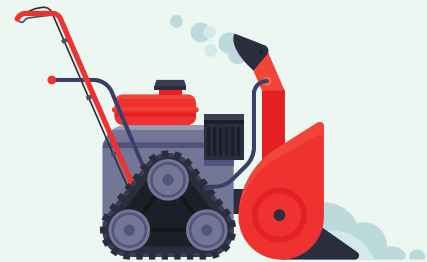
Being a responsible and respected member of your community requires you to have the confidence to maintain the appearance of your home. By taking pride in the visuals of your home, you create a positive impression for yourself and those around you.

As a Good Neighbour, there are several simple things you can do to keep the exterior of your home tidy and welcoming.

- Ensure that you retrieve your garbage and recycling bins from the curb after waste collection and store them properly.
- Keep your lawn free of any litter or flyers that may have blown away and monitor it regularly to ensure there are no overgrown weeds or grass.
- To be confident in maintaining your property, review your lease agreement and speak with your landlord to clarify what your maintenance responsibilities are.
  - Shovelling snow and mowing the lawn are just a few examples of what you may be responsible for.

By taking ownership of these tasks, you're demonstrating your commitment to maintaining your property and contributing to the overall appearance of the community. Remember, confidence is key when it comes to being a Good Neighbour. Take pride in your home and community by maintaining its appearance and setting an example for others to follow.

## Maintaining Your Property During Winter



Did you know that shovelling the sidewalk in front of your home after a snowfall is a must? Depending on where you live, there might be certain timings and deadlines that you have to follow.

Remember, it is really important not to shovel snow onto the road, as it poses a safety hazard to passing cars. While it is mandatory to shovel your driveway, being a Good Neighbour and helping out your neighbour if they need a hand is just the right thing to do!

Ontario experiences heavy snowfalls in winter, and navigating snowy sidewalks can be challenging. But don't worry, shoveling your sidewalks not only ensures the safety of your community but also helps you stay compliant with the regulations. So, gear up and get shovelling!

If you are looking for more information on shovelling rules and timings specific to your city, check out these links below:

[Sault Ste. Marie](#) >

[Brampton](#) >

[Mississauga](#) >

# Being A Considerate Neighbor

It's crucial to keep in mind that being considerate of your neighbours is vital, and you can achieve this by avoiding making disturbances as you go about your daily routines.

**When it comes to noise, remember, if it's loud enough to disrupt your neighbours, it's too loud!**

- Therefore, take care not to rev your car engine or speak too loudly outside, especially during early mornings and late nights when people are trying to sleep.
- Also, pay attention to the volume of your music as it might be causing discomfort to your fellow tenants, or your neighbours might be trying to relax.
- Regardless of whether you or your guests are hanging out in the driveway or backyard with a few people, make an effort to keep the noise to a minimum, ensuring you don't disturb your neighbours.

## Do's and Don'ts When Having People Over

As a student, you may wish to host a party or gathering, but it's crucial to be considerate of your community while still enjoying yourself.

- One way to do this is by monitoring the noise level. Regardless of the size of your party or the time of day, loud noises may disturb your neighbours, so it's essential to keep the volume to a minimum.
- To avoid any issues, it's advisable to inform your neighbours in advance of your plans and address any questions or concerns they may have. It's also essential to ask your guests to be respectful and stay off your neighbour's property.
- If you're unsure about parking arrangements, please refer to the parking section of our guide.
- Lastly, be mindful of litter and garbage, and make sure to clean up the exterior of your home afterwards.

Taking these steps will enable you to have a good time while being a considerate member of your community.



# Renting In Ontario and Signing Your Lease



Signing a lease agreement is crucial when renting a property in Ontario. Verbal agreements are not recommended, as they can't document the terms and conditions of your tenancy, leading to disputes between the landlord and the tenant.

A written agreement, on the other hand, outlines all the details agreed upon and protects the rights of both parties.

If you're renting a self-contained unit, your landlord must use the Standard Lease Form, which is a written agreement that sets out the terms and conditions of the tenancy. This form is designed to protect renters, and it's important that you understand it.

When leasing a property, keep in mind that the only legal deposits are the final month's rent and a reasonable key deposit.

Your lease should be written in plain language and include essential details such as

- Your Rent Amount
- Due date
- Things included in your rent.
- If you're paying cash, always ask for rent receipts.

**As a tenant in Ontario, it's important to be aware of your rights and responsibilities to avoid disputes with your landlord.**

## Rent Increase

In terms of rent increases, it's worth noting that in most cases, the increase in your rent can't be more than what is specified in the rent increase guidelines for every year.

If you need more information about rent increase guidelines and how they are calculated, [click here](#)

## Dealing With Eviction In Ontario

If you face eviction, your landlord can only evict you in specific situations and must provide you written notice using the proper form provided by the Landlord and Tenant Board.

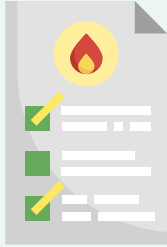
The form must indicate the reason for eviction. However, even if you receive written notice, you don't have to move out. Your landlord must first apply for and receive an eviction order from the Landlord and Tenant Board. You have the right to go to a hearing and explain why you should not be evicted.

If you feel that you have been wrongfully evicted or subjected to rent increases that violate the rent increase guidelines, you can seek help from the [Landlord and Tenant Board \(LTB\)](#). LTB helps to resolve disputes between landlords and tenants, and you can apply with them. You can contact the LTB by mail, email, in person, or by phone at their toll-free number from Monday to Friday between 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

For more information about how to contact the Landlord Tenant Board, you can [click here](#).



# Fire Safety In Your Community



## Fire Safety Resources

[Sault Ste. Marie](#) >

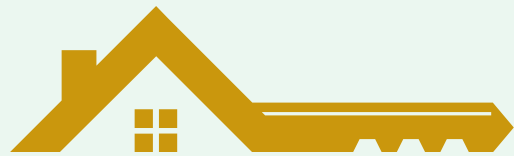
[Brampton](#) >

[Mississauga](#) >

No matter where you live, safety should be a top priority, and there are a few positive actions you can take to create a safer community.

- Your landlord is required to provide you with a functioning smoke and carbon monoxide (CO) alarm.
  - It is recommended to test both alarms once a month.
  - **Never remove the batteries or disable your alarms!**
- Remember to stay in the kitchen while cooking to avoid unnecessary fires.
- Never tamper with electrical wiring or overload outlets, and unplug heat-producing appliances when not in use, like a space heater or curling iron.
- Never leave a candle unattended, and always blow it out when leaving the room or going to sleep.
- If you have a fire extinguisher, make sure you know where it is located.
  - **Only attempt to extinguish a small fire if it is safe.**

# Personal Safety In Your Community



Ensuring safety in your home is crucial, and there are various steps you can take to make your home a safer place for yourself and your family.

Start by ensuring that all entrances are locked, and the windows and doors close securely. It is recommended that you have sturdy doors and working locks for added security.

Next, be vigilant. Do not open the door to strangers and always ask them who they are and why they are there. If you are going away, avoid posting any information on social media that may reveal that your home will be empty. Consider using timed light switches to give the impression that someone is home.

Protect yourself from scams by not sharing your personal information with anyone. If someone is trying to pressure you into making

a quick decision or offers you something that seems too good to be true, pause before taking any action. Do your research by calling the number back or reviewing the Scams Document for more tips.

Finally, stay aware of your surroundings while walking and avoid using your phone or wearing earphones when crossing the street. Stick to well-lit and busy streets and avoid taking shortcuts through dark and secluded areas.

For further information on personal safety, check out the resources provided by [Sault Ste. Marie Police](#) and [Peel Police](#).

Remember that taking these steps can give you greater peace of mind and a safer home.

# Resource Lists

Emergency Helpline	<a href="#">Call 911</a>
Local Police Services	<a href="#">Sault Ste. Marie</a> <a href="#">Brampton</a> <a href="#">Mississauga</a>
Local Fire Services	<a href="#">Sault Ste. Marie</a> <a href="#">Brampton</a> <a href="#">Mississauga</a>
City By-Laws	<a href="#">Sault Ste. Marie</a> <a href="#">Brampton</a> <a href="#">Mississauga</a>
Waste Management Services	<a href="#">Sault Ste. Marie</a> <a href="#">Brampton</a> <a href="#">Mississauga</a>
Transit Services	<a href="#">Sault Ste. Marie</a> <a href="#">Brampton</a> <a href="#">Mi-Way</a> <a href="#">Go-Transit</a> <a href="#">Presto</a>
Health Insurance	<a href="#">UHIP</a> <a href="#">StudentVIP</a>



## Have Questions?

Feel free to email us at [student.life@algonau.ca](mailto:student.life@algonau.ca)