



NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

From the Office for Off-Campus Living

April 2020

As the stay-at-home orders continue, do not hesitate to reach out to your OCL Liaisons for any assistance or guidance regarding moving out, where to live next year, your off-campus needs, and more. We are here to help those in these troubling times, so keep up with our newsletters and social media updates for more information and resources, or contact us at ocl@umn.edu with any questions. Stay safe and healthy, and practice your social distancing!

-Your Off-Campus Liaisons



Earth Day with OCL, and Do-It-Yourself Clean-Ups!

This week, Off-Campus Living is encouraging you to participate in a Do-It-Yourself Clean Up of your neighborhood in honor of Earth Day this year. While people are nested at their

homes, we believe this is the perfect opportunity to help beautify our neighborhoods and treat our world right!

Wherever you are living, grab a trash bag and take it with you on your daily walk or exercise routine, and help clean up your neighborhood. Keep proper social distancing of 6 feet during your clean-up, and discard the trash or recyclables in your personal collection bins. Share the photos of your clean up efforts using #DIYEarthDay and tag @OffCampusGopher on either Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram! Let's clean up our neighborhoods together, and keep the trash off the streets!

In the meantime, follow us on our [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), or [Instagram](#) pages for more content regarding these cleanups, or concerning your UMN off-campus needs!



Again...Another Nutritious U Update!

We understand that these frustrating times are bringing unprecedented challenges within this community, which is why we need to take advantages of the resources available, and ensure the health of ourselves and those around us. With that being said, [Nutritious U](#) is here to serve those at the University of Minnesota who are struggling to get enough to eat with fresh and healthy food.

If you haven't been keeping up, they have been providing times each month for students to attend their food pantry in Coffman Memorial Union, Room 210. But as of recently, they have now extended their availability so that they are serving Monday thru Fridays until the end of the spring semester. Additionally, you are now able to fill out a [Food Pantry ordering form](#) to pick up a bag of groceries at the Coffman Union (CMU) entrance next to the Goldy the Gopher statue if you are uncomfortable with any direct contact. Below are the hours listed in which Nutritious U will be available for the rest of the semester at CMU:

- Monday 4-6 p.m.
- Tuesday 12-2 p.m.
- Wednesday 12-2 p.m.
- Thursday 4-6 p.m.
- Friday 12-2 p.m.

Nutritious U also offers [volunteer opportunities](#) for anyone interested in helping combat the food insecurity issue here at the University of Minnesota. If you are unable to volunteer, feel free to [donate](#) to their cause as well, as they keep feeding the hungry UMN community during these challenging times!

GoldPASS

powered by  handshake

Start your search today!

GOLDPASS.UMN.EDU

CONNECTING

U of M STUDENTS and ALUMNI with

 JOBS

 INTERNSHIPS

 CAREER SERVICES

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer

Get Assistance With Your Job Search With UMN Career and Internship Services!

We understand many students are having trouble or complications with obtaining jobs or internships at this time. Given the emergence of COVID-19, this has not made it any easier for students or people to find jobs, internships, or other work that is promising to their career. With this being said, [UMN Career Services](#) is here during these desperate times to help students with finding employment that best suits their interests.

Through UMN Career Services, you will find online job resources such as [GoldPASS](#) to help find available jobs, network with students and University personnel, and connect with employers. Along with this, you will find numerous [upcoming events](#) that you will be able to attend remotely, which will help you gain better insight with job searching and applying career skills in your search. UMN Career Services also provides drop-in hours for resume and cover letter help, which [varies by college](#).

Along with offering [virtual mock interviews](#), [parents & family resources](#) and [other student resources](#), UMN Career Services is a great resource to help assist you with your career and internship needs. Most career service offices are offered within each college of UMN, so make sure to check on the [Career Services Directory](#) to find the contact information for your degree, and contact them for specific resources concerning your job search.

	Aggravated Assault	Burglary	Burglary From Motor Vehicle	Homicide	Motor Vehicle Theft	Robbery	Sexual Assault	Theft
Cedar-Riverside	1	4	9	0	8	3	1	18
Marcy-Holmes	3	3	15	0	8	2	1	42
Prospect Park	0	1	5	0	5	1	0	13
SE Como	2	2	10	0	6	1	0	14

GopherWatch Monthly Safety Report: March

Prepared by the Office of Off-Campus Living and neighborhood partners.

Crime Highlights:

- An attempted abduction occurred near 725 8th Avenue SE around 6PM on Sunday, March 1st in the Marcy-Holmes neighborhood.
 - The suspect tried to grab the victim from behind.
 - The victim was able to break free and run away.
 - The suspect was described as a 5'7" bald male, about 40 years old.

- The suspect is known to be involved with other active cases involving similar circumstances.
- The Minneapolis Police Department is investigating. More information is available via press release visit [insidempd.com](https://www.insidempd.com)
 - Anyone with information on these crimes should call CrimeStoppers of Minnesota at 1-800-222-TIPS.
- An attempted robbery occurred near 25th Avenue S and Riverside Avenue S around 5PM on Monday, March 23rd in the Cedar-Riverside neighborhood.
 - The suspects were described as two males between 14 and 18 years old.
 - The Minneapolis Police Department is investigating.

Safety Notes:

- There is a trend of catalytic converter theft, which are being taken from vehicles.
- The suspect(s) are very quick, the catalytic converter can be removed in under three minutes.
- **Prevention Tips:**
 - Call 911 when you hear the sound of a power saw coming from the street, if you witness suspicious activity and/or people around your property or block, especially under trucks or sport utility vehicles.
Install a catalytic converter protection device.



Census 2020 - get counted!

You and your roommates should fill out the census for your off-campus location where you lived prior to displacement by COVID-19 if you moved home. Even if your parents have counted you at home, you should still fill out the census for your off-campus address. Census staff have informed the University that they will go through and identify duplicate entries, as they normally do, and resolve them. Please work with your roommates to file your census before the end of May if possible. Go to my2020census.gov to complete the census online. Get more info at z.umn.edu/census. Take a screen shot of your census completion screen and post @offcampusgopher on social media with #umncensus to be eligible for prize drawings for you and your roommates to local restaurants* or stores* where you and your roommates are living now.

*local restaurants or stores must be able to accept an online or phone order from OCL for a gift card and be able to mail them to prize winners. Winning entries will be contacted through their social media account to fill out a prize information form. Questions, please contact ocl@umn.edu.

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Renting

If you are still looking for fall 2020 housing, you are not alone. Know that you do not need to feel rushed while checking out apts or houses. **YOU HAVE TIME TO SIGN!** We encourage you to wait to sign a lease if you are not sure if you would want to rent if classes may be online for part or all of fall. A decision on that should be announced in early June.

There are plenty of places to rent within 1/2 a mile to a mile of campus. Locations closest to campus will fill first, but those are also the most expensive. Keep your budget in mind and don't sign on for more than you can actually afford because you feel rushed.

In particular, we'd like to remind students looking for housing to be careful & vigilant in their housing search. It is crucial to do your research about [the property & the landlord prior](#) to signing your lease. And as always, feel free to check out our [other resources](#) on our website as well.

Suggestions?

Have you ever had an idea of a way the Neighborhood Liaisons could help improve the community? Please reach out to us! We are always looking for opportunities to improve the area we live in. Contact us by email, and a liaison will be in contact with you ASAP!

Social Media

That's right! If the newsletter is not for you, give us a follow on our 5-star rated Facebook page, our beautifully photographed Instagram page, or our newly revamped Twitter page! They offer frequent updates for those living off-campus to stay noticed on upcoming events for students.

Facebook: [@offcampusgopher](#)
Instagram: [@offcampusgopher](#)
Twitter: [@OffCampusGopher](#)

OCL now has a YouTube page, where all original content will be published! Check below for videos on local housing, safety, and more!

YouTube: [UMN Off-Campus Living](#)

NEED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE?

Apply for Student Emergency Funds by emailing onestop@umn.edu. Let them know what your needs are, and they can hopefully help you out with some of them. If you have lost your off-campus job related to COVID-19, you can apply for [unemployment](#) as well.

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

How volunteering works may change in the coming weeks due to the social distancing guidelines currently in place. We will be identifying things you can do remotely to help your community, no matter where you are and listing those on our site soon. We will still be posting opportunities for later in summer and for fall semester for sure. Use the [request form](#) to contact us for these or other local opportunities to volunteer! Have an idea? Let us know, we are happy to share. Look for a social media drive to win prizes for reporting yourself on the census in the coming weeks too!

Questions about your lease or landlord?

If you're a U of M student, be sure to get your potential lease looked at by Student Legal Services (SLS) before signing. They can point out any red flags and help you in making your choice. If you live off-campus and are having issues with repairs and your landlord is unresponsive, you should call 311. You can also work with SLS on those issues as well. Thinking you need to sublet your spot this summer? Check your lease and talk to SLS if your lease is not clear about subletting. If you are thinking about breaking your lease, we encourage you to talk to your property manager first, but SLS is available to help negotiate if you need assistance.

[Make an appointment](#)

Check Out These Virtual Events Since In-Person Events Are Cancelled

Virtual events are the only kind we can find right now. So aside from hosting a dance party in your own living room or kitchen, check out some of these options for a distraction right now. These opportunities sourced from our friends in [Student Unions & Activities](#). Check back on their page for additional ideas and other activities to stay active each week!

- [Trivia Night](#) is now on Kahoot, Thursdays at 8pm
- [Respond to writing prompts](#) inspired by the New York Times
- Netflix Party
 - [Space Jam](#)- Saturday, April 25, 7:00 pm
 - [Perks of Being a Wallflower](#), Saturday, May 2, 7:00 pm

Our favorite from their list this week is the [Harry Potter: A History of Magic](#), a British Library exhibition you can tour virtually!

OCL Mission:

Off-Campus Living empowers students to build connections on and off campus, and live with intent.

OCL Goals:

- Off-Campus students will make meaningful connections to other students, neighbors and the community.
- Off-Campus Living will provide educational and programmatic opportunities that promote student involvement, academic success, retention and positive community engagement.
- Off-Campus Living will collaborate with other university departments and local neighborhoods and towns to raise awareness of the specific needs and concerns of off-campus and commuter students.

Won't you be our neighbor?

