The Dean of Students’ Community Living resources are designed to guide both our off-campus and on-campus students on how to be responsible community members and good neighbors. The Rutgers–Camden campus community extends beyond the Rutgers banners that line our campus. We have many neighbors right here in the Cooper Grant and North Camden neighborhoods, as well as along the River Line and PATCO Speedline corridors throughout southern New Jersey and into Philadelphia.

The Office of the Dean of Students seeks to provide students with tips on how to be a good neighbor, and an involved and conscientious community member. Being aware and staying informed of things in your community create a more relaxed living environment for you and your neighbors.

This booklet offers information on the communities we share, resources for getting involved in your community, and tips on safe and harmonious living.
Cooper Grant
Part of the National Register of Historic Places, the Cooper Grant neighborhood of Camden has been inhabited by families since as early as 1800, and still thrives today as part of Camden’s downtown area. Rutgers–Camden is part of Cooper Grant, which is home to many families and students alike. The Cooper Grant Neighborhood Association’s mission is to preserve and improve the quality of life in the neighborhood and to sponsor, establish, build, encourage, support, and enhance both the neighborhood and its residents. Take a stroll down Cooper Street and see old historic mansions, the old RCA building, historic Johnson Park, and a stunning view of the Philadelphia skyline.

River Line Corridor
The River Line is a regional light rail that connects Camden to Trenton. There are five stops in Camden. Rutgers–Camden students frequently use the Cooper Street stop (located right on campus) to access transportation to and from campus. Any student qualifies for a NJ Transit River Line student pass, which offers savings up to 25% on fares, as well as various discounts at restaurants, on travel, and at other major retailers. To see if you live along the River Line corridor and if it would suit your transportation needs, visit njtransit.com/ti/ti_servlet.srv?hdnPageAction=LightRailTo.

PATCO Speedline Corridor in Philadelphia
PATCO also runs along the Ben Franklin Bridge, transporting South Jersey and Philadelphia residents across the Delaware River. The service takes riders directly into downtown Philadelphia. In as little as 10 minutes a rider can enjoy a quick and easy commute from 16th and Locust Streets in Philadelphia to City Hall in Camden. In Philadelphia, PATCO stops at 8th and Market, 9th/10th and Locust, 12th/13th and Locust, and 15th/16th and Locust. PATCO allows riders to reap the benefits of Philadelphia and familiarize themselves with the communities along this corridor. Just steps from these PATCO stations you can find yourself at an art gallery, a trendy coffee shop, the Liberty Bell, or in University City hanging in cafés with students from Drexel University and University of Pennsylvania.

Check visitphilly.com to find out about free concerts and other events held throughout the city.
Below are campus and community numbers and websites you may find useful

**CAMPUS RESOURCES**

Office of Housing and Residence Life
housing.camden.rutgers.edu
856-225-6471

Parking Office
parking.camden.rutgers.edu
856-225-6137

RUPD & Escorts/Security
rupd.camden.rutgers.edu
856-225-6009

Civic Engagement
camden.rutgers.edu/page/civic-engagement
856-225-6754

Dean of Students
deanofstudents.camden.rutgers.edu
856-225-6050

**COOPER GRANT RESOURCES**

Neighborhood Association
coopergrant.org
info@coopergrant.org

Camden County Police Department
camdencountypd.org
856-757-7400

Camden Public Works
ci.camden.nj.us/departments/public_works.html
856-757-7034

Camden Parking Authority
camdenparking.net
856-757-9300

**RIVER LINE CORRIDOR**

NJ Transit Light Rail
riverline.com
973-275-5555

**SPEED LINE CORRIDOR**

PATCO Speed Line
ridepatco.org
856-772-6900
215-922-4600

Delaware River Port Authority (DRPA)
drpa.org
877-567-3772

**COMMUNITY INFORMATION**

Camden County
camdencounty.com
866-226-3362

Communications and Community Affairs
856-225-5436

Environmental Affairs
856-858-5241

Health and Human Services
856-374-6319

Public Safety
856-783-4808

Public Works
856-566-2980

City of Philadelphia
philaphila.gov
215-686-8686

Center City District
centercityphila.org
215-440-5500

Philadelphia Parking Authority
philapark.org
888-591-3636
At Rutgers–Camden, we are dedicated to integrating ourselves in the region to help improve the lives of our neighbors and to help build stronger communities. Through our Office of Civic Engagement, students, faculty, and staff participate in almost 30 different programs that range from literacy programs for children to pro bono work.

To learn more about our programs, visit camden.rutgers.edu/page/civic-engagement.

In addition to Rutgers’ programs, every member of the campus community has a responsibility to the communities we live in and the ones we share around the area. Check out some of the following tips on simple things you can do in your community to improve the quality of life for you and your neighbors.

Get to Know Your Neighbors
Knowing your neighbors’ names and even keeping a log of their contact information can promote a sense of community and allow for easier communication on any neighborhood issues and concerns. For Cooper Grant residents, join the neighborhood association (coopergrant.org) and be an active part of what happens in your community.

Keep Noise to a Minimum
Most towns have noise ordinances, so while you should familiarize yourself with your municipal codes, it is also important to keep the Golden Rule in mind. Try not to use yard equipment or play music too loudly at night or in the early morning. Try to inform your neighbors of any parties you plan to have and make sure you and your guests are respectful of different types of families and their lifestyles by keeping noise and large groups to a minimum especially when gathering outside.

Keep Your Property Neat and Clean
Recycling is mandatory in New Jersey and all towns have rules about trash collection, so make sure you are familiar with your town’s guidelines and that you have the proper containers for garbage pickup. Aside from garbage collection, you should try to keep your property free from litter and store your containers in a secure location.

Maintain Your Residence
Keeping a clean house, inside and out, will make for better living conditions and also keep your property in better shape. Whether you are renting or own your property, you want to make sure you are keeping up with repairs and town laws. Familiarize yourself with your town’s snow removal and yard waste removal policies.

Park Carefully
Be conscious of where you park and where your guests park, whether you live in an urban setting or a suburban community. It is essential to make sure that you park in your own designated area, that your vehicle is not obstructing the flow of traffic, and that you have all necessary parking permits. Also, do not leave any valuables visible in your car, as you might make yourself a target for vandalism and theft.

Tend to Your Pet
One of the most essential parts of owning a pet is making sure it has all the necessary vaccinations and care. Check with your town to find out about any laws that mandate pets to be licensed or vaccinated. Also, clean up after your pet, even in your own yard, and try to keep its noise to a minimum as well.

Stay Safe
1. Make sure you have your town’s police department number and the RUPD number programmed in your phone, and have your emergency contacts clearly labeled.
   - RUPD: 856-225-6009
   - Camden PD: 856-757-7400 or 911
2. Subscribe to emergency alerts for your town and surrounding towns.
3. Lock your doors whether you are home or not and coordinate with roommates when to leave porch lights on. Have a schedule of who checks to ensure doors and windows are locked.
4. Always be aware of your surroundings by never walking alone and keeping on an illuminated path.
5. Stay up to date with crime alerts for your campus and your community. To view Rutgers–Camden crime reports, visit rupd.camden.rutgers.edu.
6. Never allow a stranger into your home. Report any suspicious activity. Remember, you are the eyes and ears of your community.
7. Be responsible. Make sure your roommates and guests understand the consequences and liability of underage drinking in your residence.

Source: Tips courtesy of New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Rutgers Center of Alcohol Studies
Tips for Parents
We know that sending your children to college can be unnerving, as can their decision to live off campus. Here are some things to think about that might help you and your student decide if living off campus is right for him or her.

- Develop a budget with your student and come up with a plan of how much rent, utilities and other living expenses will cost.
- Review the lease/rental agreement with your student and make sure all the terms can be met and are in accordance with the town’s laws.
- Spend time looking at several different properties and make sure you and your student are choosing one that is close to campus and in good condition. A residence that needs too many repairs could prove to be an unneeded stress.
- If your student decides to live with roommates, make sure both you and your student know the potential roommates and their parents. Make sure everyone comes up with a collective plan of how the residence will be paid for and maintained.

Source: Tips courtesy of the New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Rutgers Center of Alcohol Studies

Useful Information: Living in Cooper-Grant

Parking
Cooper Grant is a Zone 1 neighborhood. Residents must have a valid parking permit to park in designated areas. Obtain passes at camdenparking.net.

Municipal Waste
Cooper Grant is located in District 3. Trash and recycling must be put out the previous night after 8 p.m. Household trash is collected on Wednesday and Saturday mornings during May through September and on Wednesdays mornings during October through April. Recycling is collected on Wednesday mornings. To get a recycling receptacle, call Public Works at 856-757-7034. If trash is not being collected on your street, call Waste Management at 800-893-0054.

Street Sweeping
From March 5 to December, street sweeping occurs every two weeks on Fridays and Wednesdays, one day for one side of the street and the other day for the other side. Vehicles parked on the side of the street where sweeping will occur will be subjected to ticketing.

Noise Violations
Quiet hours are from 10 p.m. to 8 a.m. During these times, all noise should be kept to the confines of your residence.

Violations include:
- A volume of noise that can be heard outside the exterior of your home.
- Vehicle stereo systems that can be heard outside the exterior of your car or 50 feet from a private residence.
- Car alarms after five minutes of continuous airborne sound and 15 minutes of impulsive sound.
- Shouting, loud noises, or disturbances in public spaces.

Noise violations should be reported to the Camden City Police and complaints logged with the District Council Collaborative Board so there is a written record of the incident. Violations can result in up to $500 fines and community service.

Drinking in Public Places
It is illegal for any person, regardless of age, to have an open container of alcohol in a public place. A public place is defined by any street, highway, road, alley, sidewalk, or in the front of any type of business, public grounds, or parks.

Underage Drinking
There is legislation that prohibits anyone under the age of 21 from possessing or drinking alcohol in public and in private residences. Furthermore, there is legislation that prohibits any adult from knowing about, permitting, or facilitating the illegal consumption of alcohol.

Instead of hosting a party with alcohol, throw a mocktail party. No one will miss alcohol if you serve great food, and creative tea and soft drink recipes.

In the Event of an Emergency Dial 911
Any person who has altered consciousness, changed respiration, vomiting, clammy or pale skin, or is not responding may be experiencing alcohol poisoning or some medical emergency. In this event dial 911.

Source: Tips courtesy of the New Jersey Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Rutgers Center of Alcohol Studies