

Student Activities Registered Student Organization Activities: Town of Mansfield Ordinances

Town of Mansfield has various ordinances that apply to all students on and off Campus. Violating these ordinances could result in fines and other penalties. You can find a copy of all the ordinances on the Town's website: Mansfieldct.gov.

Living / Assembling

Please Note: The town of Mansfield updated their **zoning regulations**, and these regulations affect student organization activities off campus.

Per article IV Section B.30 of the Mansfield Zoning Regulations, **student organizations** (definition: *Any group of persons organized for a common purpose, interest or pleasure. This term includes, but is not limited to social, service, and professional/academic organizations*) **are prohibited from using to use Mansfield residences as sites for lodging organization members, or as sites for the conduct of organization-sponsored entertainment or assemblage."**

If you have organization "houses," or if you organizations have any activities or events in Mansfield residences, you are in violation of the Mansfield zoning regulations.

Nuisance

- Any behavior which substantially interferes with the comfort or safety of other residents or occupants of the same or nearby buildings or structures is defined as a nuisance.
- Unlawful conduct includes, but is not limited to:
 - individually or in combination with other misbehavior, excessive pedestrian and vehicular traffic, obstruction of public streets by crowds or vehicles, illegal parking, the service of alcohol to underage persons, underage drinking, fights, creating a public disturbance, breach of the peace, trespassing, disorderly conduct, littering, simple assault, threatening, harassment, illegal burning or use of fireworks, urinating or defecating in public, lewdness, criminal mischief, crimes against property, or excessive noise.

Violation of this ordinance may result in any designated Town official or police officer issuing a written warning or assessing a fine of \$250 per violation. Additional penalties may be issued in addition to those aforementioned.

Possession of Alcohol

- No person shall consume any alcoholic liquor, or have in his or her possession any open container of alcoholic liquor, while upon or within the limits of any public highway, public area or parking area within the Town of Mansfield.

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- Possession of an open container of alcoholic liquor or consumption by any person while in a motor vehicle parked within or upon a public area shall be a violation.
- No person shall host an activity at which alcoholic liquor is consumed by or dispensed to any minor.
- No minor shall possess any container of alcoholic liquor, whether opened or unopened, within the Town of Mansfield. This restriction shall apply to both public and private property.

If found in violation, violators will be subject to a fine of \$90 or required to complete a substance abuse awareness and prevention program, which cost shall not exceed \$90. Additional penalties may be issued in addition to those aforementioned.

Litter

- No person, while a driver or passenger in a vehicle, shall throw or deposit litter upon any street or other public place within the Town, or upon private property
- No person shall throw or deposit litter on any private property within the Town, whether owned by such person or not, except that the owner or person in control of occupied private property may maintain private receptacles for collection in such a manner that litter will be prevented from being carried or deposited by the elements upon any street, sidewalk or other public place or upon any private property

Citations shall be punishable with a fine of \$90 dollars for each violation. Additional penalties may be issued in addition to those aforementioned.

- Note: Each separate day that a violation exists after the issuance of a citation shall be subject to a separate additional fine without the issuance of a separate citation. In certain instances, the Town can legally enter private property to remove litter, and may charge the property owner for the cost of the removal.

Noise

The Town of Mansfield limits background noise in residential areas to 55 decibels during the daytime and 45 decibels during nighttime. No one person or group of people should exceed 100 decibels during the daytime and should not exceed 80 decibels during the nighttime.

- Example: Playing a typical home stereo at normal volume, produces 80 decibels of noise.

Violations carry fines of \$88. If found in violation during the daytime, the person or persons shall receive a verbal order to cease or abate the noise immediately. If the order to cease or abate the noise is not complied with, or is complied with and then violated again within 30 days,

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the person or persons responsible for the noise shall be charged with a violation of this chapter. If violation is during the nighttime hours, officers do not have to issue a warning/verbal order before charging any person with a violation. Additional penalties may be issued in addition to those aforementioned.

Definitions

ALCOHOLIC LIQUOR - “Alcoholic liquor” or “alcoholic beverage” includes the four varieties of liquor (alcohol, beer, spirits and wine) and every liquid or solid, patented or not, containing alcohol, spirits, wine or beer and capable of being consumed by a human being for beverage purposes.

DAYTIME - The hours between 8:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., Monday through Saturday, and the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. on Sundays and federal and state holidays

DECIBEL - A logarithmic unit of measure used in measuring magnitudes of sound.

LITTER - Any discarded, used, or consumed substance or waste material, garbage or rubbish, which has not been deposited in a refuse receptacle.

NIGHTTIME - The hours between 9:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m., Sunday evening through Saturday morning, and between 9:00 p.m. and 10:00 a.m. Saturday evening through Sunday morning, and the eve of federal and state holidays through the following morning.

Sources:

- Mansfieldct.gov – Town Clerk: Town Code of Ordinances

This document supplements and does not supersede any other legal documents.