

**Student Activities Registered Student Organization Activities:  
Town of Mansfield Ordinances**

Town of Mansfield has various ordinances that apply to 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.

Please Note: The assemblage of "any group of persons organized for a common purpose, interest or pleasure" is *not permitted* under Mansfield zoning ordinance, as of July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017. "This includes, but is not limited to social, service, and professional/academic organizations" (Article IV, Mansfieldct.gov).

\*The University of Connecticut (UConn) does not condone the neglect of any ordinances related to the Town of Mansfield.

**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.

**Town of Mansfield Ordinances**

***Assemblage***

**Per article IV Section B.30 and B.31 of the current Mansfield Zoning Regulations, below are the following definitions:**

- ***Fraternal organizations*** are defined as: 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. All UConn student organizations are fraternal organizations according to this definition. (Article IV, Section B.30)
- In addition, Article IV Section B.31 defines a ***fraternal organization house*** as: Any building or portion of a building used by a fraternal organization for the purpose of lodging organization

**Student Activities Registered Student Organization Activities:  
Town of Mansfield Ordinances**

members, or as a site for the conduct of organization-sponsored entertainment or assemblage. (Article IV, Section B.31)

Further, Article VII, Section G lists permitted uses of single family homes in Zone RAR-90 (Rural Agricultural Residence 90). The operation of a fraternal organization house in the RAR-90 zone is not permitted.

According to these regulations and definitions, if your organization has a "house," or if your organization has any activities or events in Mansfield single family residences in Zone RAR-90, the resident(s) is/are in violation of Mansfield Zoning Regulations. ***These violations are sent to the landlord.***

***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.
- 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.

**Student Activities Registered Student Organization Activities:  
Town of Mansfield Ordinances**

*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, 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.*

**Good Practices**

- Limit the volume on the music played. Your neighbors shouldn't be able to hear your tunes.

**Student Activities Registered Student Organization Activities:  
*Town of Mansfield Ordinances***

- If having an indoor party, be sure to keep the noise levels down so you do not cause a disturbance to those residing next to you or in your immediate vicinity.
- Create a guest list whenever you are having a gathering.
- Build good relationships with your neighbors. Notify them if you are having a gathering; maybe even invite them over.
- Check IDs as you are responsible for ensuring that minors are not consuming alcohol in your residence or on your property.
- Don't let guests party on the roof. Limit the amount of people on decks and add-on porches because the structure can become vulnerable, making it dangerous for your guests.
- Limit the amount of alcohol distributed. More alcohol may lead to more intoxicated people and more intoxicated people may lead to many serious situations.

**Sources:**

- UConn Off-Campus Student Services: A Huskies Guide to Off-Campus Living – Town of Mansfield Ordinances (2015-2016)
- Mansfieldct.gov – Town Clerk: Town Code of Ordinances

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