



Skidmore welcomes open dialogue with citizens to address the issue of college students residing in local neighborhoods. We have taken steps to discuss with our off-campus students such issues as respect, personal responsibility, and the importance of being a good neighbor. Our students are bound to an honor code with regards to their academic and social behavior, and this extends beyond College property. In addition we have stressed to them that actions have consequences and that we can and will hold them responsible if they bring discredit to the College by acting inappropriately or illegally.

We offer the following information to the surrounding community to enable us to work collectively to improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods.



Get to Know Your Neighbors:

Annually, over 500 Skidmore students live off campus in neighborhoods and areas surrounding Saratoga Springs. While the vast majority are good and decent neighbors, we are aware that there are certain residences where our students are adversely affecting the quality of life in some neighborhoods by their inconsiderate actions. In addition to the College addressing these issues with students, we are requesting that you get to know these students early in the school year by introducing yourself and your family to them. An early discussion of issues such as late night partying, noise, vehicular traffic,

children, and employment can help to preempt hard feelings as the year goes on. By coming to a mutual understanding before any disruptions occur, all parties can look to appreciate the concerns of others, and thereby limit the potential for friction.



Know Your Rights: There are various laws and ordinances pertaining to quality of life issues in all neighborhoods, and we recommend that both students and citizens become familiar with policies that are designed to control excessive behavior within our community. This knowledge will better enable all concerned to observe and respect accepted community standards. Additionally, if no mutual resolution is forthcoming, the affected parties will know their legal recourse.



What Are Your Options in the Event of Conflict?

In the event you are faced with a situation you feel is so disruptive that it needs to stop, we encourage you to contact the police in your respective jurisdiction (Saratoga Springs PD – 584-1800, State Police – 583-7000, Saratoga County Sheriff's Department – 885-6761). Be aware that in many cases the police will need to have a person sign a legal complaint in order to take legal action. You may also be required to testify in any legal proceedings that follow. You can also report these incidents to our Department of Campus Safety (580-5567) if our students are involved, and then we can contact the police on your behalf.



What Can Skidmore Do? While the College can and will address behavioral issues caused by our students off campus, we do not have the legal authority to intervene in these incidents as they occur. We do provide off-campus students with literature relating to living in the community, and we have visited numerous off-campus student residences early in the fall semester to inform them of our expectation regarding their behavior. Also, we do follow-up interviews at student residences that have been brought to our attention for negative behavior in order to mediate the concerns brought forth. In addition, we have been working with local and state police to develop programs to educate students and community members regarding their rights and responsibilities.

The College can also bring these students before the Integrity Board, which is our campus judicial system. Residents of the community can bring their complaints in person to this forum for action against offending students. The ultimate goal of this process is to seek resolution of the problems identified, and sanctions may be imposed as a result of a hearing. An Integrity Board hearing utilizes a panel of students, faculty, and employees who hear the evidence submitted and issue a finding. For more information contact the office of Residential Life at 580-5765.

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Skidmore values its relationship with the surrounding community, and we have taken steps to inform our students of their responsibilities as good citizens and neighbors.

College-age students are energetic, and industrious, and they contribute greatly to the vitality of the Saratoga Springs community.

Unfortunately, some of this energy occasionally contributes to conflict in neighborhoods, and this affects the quality of life for both students and community residents.

The following information is provided to foster a positive relationship between Skidmore and the community. We have provided students with similar information to help them understand your concerns.

Important Phone Numbers

**Saratoga Springs Police
584-1800**

**Emergency
911**

**New York State Police
583-7000**

**Saratoga Co. Sheriff
885-6761**

**Skidmore Campus Safety
580-5567**

**Skidmore Residential Life
580-5765**

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*Making Good
Neighbors*

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