Tips & Tricks to Survive a Wisconsin Winter

If you are a newcomer to cold winters, or even if you are a veteran of the season of snow and ice, it is helpful to understand the University Apartments heating guidelines.

Getting the Most Out of the Heating System

In accordance with State of Wisconsin Energy Conservation Guidelines, the amount of heat provided by University Apartments is sufficient to maintain a temperature range of 68°F/20°C to 72°F/22°C in the apartments.

To maximize the efficiency of the heating system:

Move furniture at least four inches away from the convectors to allow the warm air to rise into the apartment.

Make sure rugs and window coverings do not block the vents.

How to Set the Controls

In most Eagle Heights and Harvey Street apartments, the heat is controlled by a thermostat. On the top side of the thermostat is a dial with a range of 60°F/16°C to 72°F/22°C. This temperature range provides a sufficient amount of heat to maintain the temperature in your apartment between 68°F/20°C to 72°F/22°C, and at the same time conserve energy. There will be a normal fluctuation of plus or minus two degrees.

The heat in University Houses is controlled by adjusting a dial on each individual radiator. To get more heat, turn it to the left. To get less heat, turn it to the right.

To Keep Your Apartment Feeling Warmer:

Here are some other things you can do to make your apartment feel warmer:

Keep heat sources (such as a lamp or candle) away from the thermostat. They can warm the air around the thermostat and “fool” it into thinking the whole apartment is that warmer temperature.

The amount of humidity in your apartment makes a difference in how warm you feel. Use the ventilation fan in the bathroom to remove excess moisture and consider using a humidifier if you want to increase the humidity in your apartment. Normal humidity would be 40-50%.

Your apartment will feel warmer if you keep your bedroom doors open to allow the movement of air throughout the apartment.

Take advantage of the energy efficient windows. Close both the inner and outer windows to create an insulating effect. Windows open for any period of time will allow heat to escape.

Adjusting to the cold weather can take some time, but following these recommendations will help make your apartment warmer and keep energy costs down.

Shorewood Hills Elementary School Timeliness Reminders

At Shorewood Hills Elementary School, we cherish our partnership with families. On-time arrival for school is a priority we share with our entire school community; parents, teachers, and students.

A student is considered tardy if they arrive at school up to 15 minutes after the designated start time. In addition to missed learning opportunities for the tardy student, tardiness to class or to school causes disruption to the learning environment for all students. Patterns of severe tardiness call for intervention by the teacher, the principal, and/or the school’s student services staff.

Our school day begins promptly at 8:30 a.m., so students should be on the playground by 8:20 a.m. to enter the building when the bell rings.

Students arriving to school up until 8:45 am are recorded as tardy.

When a student gets to school after 8:45 a.m. they are considered to have an unexcused absence.

Please make sure your child arrives on time each and every day, and please feel free to contact the school if you have any questions or concerns.

Our main office number is: 204-1200
Our Safe Arrival number is: 204-1206
A mouse (plural: mice) is a small rodent characteristically having a pointed snout, relatively large rounded ears and small, black eyes. They weigh about 1/2 ounce and usually are light brownish to gray. An adult is about 5 to 7 inches long, including the 3- to 4-inch tail. The best-known mouse species is the common house mouse (Mus musculus).

They are known to invade homes for food and shelter. Droppings, fresh gnaw marks, and tracks indicate areas where mice are active. Mouse nests are made from finely shredded paper or other fibrous material, usually in sheltered locations. House mice have a characteristic musky odor that reveals their presence. Mice are active mostly at night, but they can be seen occasionally during daylight hours. Mice often live in hidden areas within homes, including storage boxes, attics, lofts and wall interiors.

How Mice Enter Homes

Mice enter homes through cracks and holes found in walls, floors and foundations. Residents commonly do not recognize mouse holes until other signs of their presence appear. As a result of dropping temperatures, mice start entering homes at the beginning of fall. After mice enter a structure and find it to be safe and warm, they rarely venture outside again.

Prevention

In order to prevent mice from entering the home, all cracks, openings and holes should be sealed. All doors and windows must close properly. Do not store any food outside or in basement storage. Store food indoors in glass, plastic or metal containers with tight lids, and be certain to dispose of all food waste as soon as possible. Mice like to nest in leaf piles – so please remove all property outside of apartments by October 1st so that leaves can be collected. If you think you may have a mouse problem, place a work order through the online system, and it will be responded to within 24 hours. You may also contact a University Apartments pest control professional at (608) 262-1530 for help.

Smoking at University Apartments

Some residents are surprised to learn that smoking is allowed in some parts of University Apartments. Smoking is permitted 25 feet away from buildings, and we also have some buildings where smoking is allowed inside of the individual apartments.

As the weather cools off, we like to remind people to be sure that they are 25 feet from buildings to smoke. In the spirit of the policy, we also ask residents to consider that although you may be 25 feet away from the building, wind could still blow the smoke in and impact your neighbors, so try to position yourself in a way to minimize impact. In all buildings, even those where smoking is permitted in individual apartments, smoking is never allowed in common areas such as hallways, stairwells, and laundry rooms.

Smoking policies apply to visitors or guests as well, so we ask you to please remind them. It is much less awkward to remind your guests than to have a complaint made by your neighbors.

If you are a neighbor who is concerned about someone smoking inside of or too close to the building, we ask you to please talk to them directly. We believe that in a strong community like University Apartments, people should be able to share their concerns with their neighbors. We also believe that most people want to be good neighbors, and are unaware that they may be negatively impacting others.

If you do not know how to speak to your neighbors about your concerns, or you have spoken to them and the behavior has not changed, our resident support services staff is here to help. You can contact the Resident Manager for your neighborhood, or contact the Community Center to be put in touch with one of our resident support team members.
EVENTS THIS MONTH

You can sign-up for our events on our website located at www.housing.wisc.edu/apartments-resident-news. Please follow the instructions on the page to sign-up.

CANCELATIONS & CLOSURES

Community Center is closed Dec. 23-25
Typical evening activities are cancelled these days.
Typical activity resumes Tuesday, Dec. 27.

Community Center is closed Jan. 1
Typical evening activities are cancelled this day.
Typical activity resumes Tuesday, Jan. 2.

Volleyball is cancelled Dec. 14
Gym is in use for KIDSville.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Assembly Meeting & KIDSville
Thursday, December 14, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Community Center, Room 108
The University Apartments Assembly and Officer Evans will be hosting a joint event for both adults and children to discuss the community, ideas for future events, neighborhood concerns, etc. At the same time in the large gym Officer Evans will be hosting a KIDSville event for children ages 5 and up where they will learn about safety and be involved in other fun activities. Pizza will be provided for both events. Sign up is required for KIDSville and will open on Monday, December 4 at noon.

Game Night at the Community Center
Friday, December 29, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Community Center, Large Gym
We are hosting a board game night. Bring your own to play with family and friends, or play one of the many we have available at the Community Center. Light snacks will be provided. This is a free, drop-in event.

The Nutcracker at Overture Hall
Saturday, December 16, 2:00 p.m.
Meet at Community Center at 1:00pm; show is at 2:00pm at Overture Hall. We are taking a trip to see the Madison Ballet perform The Nutcracker. We will be taking the 80 bus over together, or you can provide your own transportation. To sign up for a ticket, check out our website. Tickets are $40. Sign up will go Live Monday, December 4th at noon.

Cooking Class
Friday, December 15, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Come to a cooking class, taught to residents, by residents. Ingredients and instructions are all provided. Sign up will be available starting Monday, December 4 at noon. If you are interested in in teaching a cooking class, email us at UAEvents@housing.wisc.edu to sign up as a teacher.

SAVE THE DATE

Save the date for these exciting events happening in Spring Semester:

Kalahari Resort Day Trip
Sunday, January 23

Milwaukee Bucks Trip
Sunday, February 25

Shorewood International Festival
Saturday, April 21
Applications for garden plots at the Eagle Heights and University Houses Gardens will be available starting December 15, 2017. Applications can be filled out and submitted on-line, or you may print one from the website and drop it off at the Eagle Heights Community Center, along with your check for the fees. You may also pick up paper applications, in English or in Mandarin, at the Community Center, beginning December 15.

The website is at www.eagleheightsgardens.org. Besides the applications, we have lots of information about the Gardens on the website.

Both small and large garden plots are available. Large plots at Eagle Heights are about 20’ X 25’ (6 X 8 meters), and small plots are about half that size. University Houses Gardens plots are slightly bigger. Eagle Heights plots must be gardened organically, but University Houses has both organic and non-organic sections. For residents of Eagle Heights, Harvey Street, and University Houses, large plots are $32 and small plots are $20.

If you submit an application on-line, you will need to drop off your payment for the plot separately, at the Community Center. We cannot accept cash, credit cards, or starter checks. (Those are checks without account numbers, or printed names and addresses.) However, we do accept personal checks, money orders, and cashier’s checks, from banks, credit unions, the post office, or convenience stores. Be sure to write your name on the money order. If you have a friend write a check for you, please attach a note to the check with your name, so we can connect the check to your application. Your application will not be complete until we receive your payment for the fees.

People who had garden plots in 2017 will have until February 15 to renew their plots. After that date, remaining plots will be assigned to new gardeners. So, new gardeners will not receive their plot assignments until late February or March. There are usually about 200 garden plots available each year for new gardeners. Once all of the plots have been assigned, we will start a waiting list.

Opening day for garden season will be late in March.

If you have any questions about the Gardens or the applications, please contact the Gardens Registrar, at ehgardens@rso.wisc.edu.

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**International Festival**

*Photos by Claire Zettl, University Housing*

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**Will You Be Traveling Over Winter Break?**

As another semester wraps up we know many of you will be spending some time away from campus. If you are leaving your apartment for part of winter break, please:

- Double check to make sure your alarm clock alarm is off.
- Consider contacting the Post Office to hold your mail if you will be gone more than a few days; you can do this on-line at www.usps.com. Mail can be held from 3 to 30 days.
- Take out the garbage and any perishable foods that could spoil while you are away.
- Consider having a neighbor or friend check on your apartment, water plants, feed your fish, remove flyers, etc. University Apartments staff cannot let people in your apartment who are not on the lease, so arrangements for a key are between you and your neighbor or friend.
- Move any valuable items (books, electronic equipment, etc.) off the floor to prevent water damage in case of a burst pipe due to freezing temperatures.
- If you have an individual thermostat, turn your heat down to 68 degrees.
- Close all your windows. Close any window shades or drapes.
- Lock your doors.
- Make arrangements to pay your January rent.
- Remember that post dated checks are not held and will be processed when received.
- Remember that the campus bus routes are not in service on December 24th, 25th, 31st, or January 1st. Campus routes also operate on a “recess schedule” over the winter break which means the bus runs less frequently. Please keep this in mind when making travel arrangements. Bus route and schedule details can be found at www.cityofmadison.com/metro.

Good luck on final exams and projects and enjoy the winter break!
COMMUNITY CENTER OFFICE HOURS:

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<th>Day</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>7:45 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>7:45 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>7:45 a.m. to 7:45 p.m.</td>
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| Thursday     | 7:45 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.  
                  / 10:00 a.m. to 5:45 p.m.  |
| Friday       | 7:45 A.M. to 5:45 p.m. |
| Saturday     | 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. |

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Rent a Community Center Room

https://housing.ems.wisc.edu

Do you have an upcoming event? The Community Center has space for you! The cost is more affordable than many other locations, and it is easy to find out what space is available, and how much it would cost. If you have a UW NetID, you will sign in with that. If you do not have one, there is no problem! Sign in as a guest!

Contact the Leasing Office

Leasing@housing.wisc.edu

Do you have a question for Peggy? Do you need to talk to Leasing for any reason? Email first! She will be able to answer your questions, or make an appointment for you. That way, you won’t be disappointed if she is already busy with other residents when you stop by.

Your lease, roommate policies, transfer and termination information, and more can be found on the University Apartments section of the Housing website.

http://www.housing.wisc.edu/apartments.htm

Eagle’s Wing Child Care

EaglesWing@housing.wisc.edu

Do you have questions about child care in the Community Center? We welcome any and all questions, comments and suggestions. Based on the topic, your email will be forwarded to the right person to answer your question. To put your child’s name on a waiting list for Eagle’s Wing and/or other campus child care, you can do so at: www.housing.wisc.edu/EaglesWing

Request Repairs Online

If something in your apartment doesn’t work, let us know right away. Repairs will be made even if you are not at home.

Night, weekend, and holiday repairs are only made in urgent situations. If you put in a repair request as soon as you notice a problem, it may keep the problem from getting worse at a time no mechanic is available.

When you need a non-emergency repair, use the Repair website. Only request one repair on each form. The Repairs webpage also has some instructions on small repairs you can make yourself.

www.housing.wisc.edu/apartments-maintenance-request

To Contact Resident Managers

A Resident Manager is on-call from 5:30 p.m. to 8 a.m. on weekdays, and 24 hours a day on holidays and weekends. No Resident Manager is on Duty at other times, when the University Apartments Office (in the Community Center) is open.

Due to problems with cell reception (sometimes the Resident Manager on Duty is in a basement) the most efficient and effective way to contact the Resident Manager on Duty is sending a text. Texts or calls should be placed to 608-444-9308.

www.housing.wisc.edu/apartments.htm

CONTACT US:

611 Eagle Heights
Madison, WI 53705-1501
608-262-3407
universityapartments@housing.wisc.edu

University Apartments
UNIVERSITY HOUSING
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON