



Miami University Fraternity Fire Safety & Property Maintenance Program

Purpose

The purpose of the Fraternity Fire Safety program is to promote life safety and property maintenance in off campus fraternity housing at Miami University. The program is designed to create a shared responsibility for education and enforcement of fire safety and house management between the students living in fraternity houses, the university, and the town of Oxford. The program includes inspections, educational programs, enforcement and recognition.

Partners

City of Oxford, Oxford Fire Department, Interfraternity Council and the Cliff Alexander Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life

Program Goals

- Reduce fires in off-campus fraternity housing
- Maintain a positive fraternal image based off continual property maintenance
- Create a consistent fire department and town of Oxford presence with fire prevention and safety
- Encourage and assist fraternities in taking responsibility for ensuring their structures are safe

Inspections

Fire Department Inspection: The purpose of the Fire Department Inspection is to check building fire protection systems and to ensure the building meets the standard building fire code compliance. Life safety and other correctable code violations will be examined and recommendations will be made to the students and property owners at time of inspection.

City Inspection: The purpose of the city inspection is to ensure that the life safety components of the building are present, functional, and up to date. The city also inspects the property maintenance and housing codes.

Each chapter facility will have a total of four (4) inspections a year based off the following schedule:

July Joint Fire and City Inspection for Property Owners

Purpose: To make sure home owners and or property managers are in communication with the town and fire department and address any concerns with the property prior to the students moving back in August. In attendance must be: house corporation representatives/property manager. A summer resident is highly encouraged to be in attendance if your property has any.



October Fire Department Inspection for Students

Purpose: to make sure students understand the importance of fire safety within their chapter house. In attendance must be the fire marshal or house manager and or the chapter president.

February City Inspection for Students

Purpose: to allow an opportunity for the city to go through the fraternity properties mid-year and make sure they are all up to code. In attendance must be the fire marshal or house manager and or the chapter president.

April Fire Inspection for Students

Purpose: to make sure students understand the importance of fire safety within their chapter house. In attendance must be the fire marshal or house manager and or the chapter president.

Oversight & Scheduling:

The Cliff Alexander Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life and the Interfraternity Council will schedule inspections for the town of Oxford and the Oxford Fire Department.

Training & Educational Programs

- Trainings and educational programs will be held twice a year. They will be coordinated by the Cliff Alexander Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life, the Interfraternity Council vice-president of Facilities, and the City of Oxford.

Chapter Responsibilities

A Checklist for House Managers & Fire Marshals

- ☐ Appoint Fire Marshal and or House Manager
- ☐ Attend Fire Safety/House Manager Training in August and January
- ☐ Sign up for Inspections through the Cliff Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life and Leadership
- ☐ Complete self inspection prior to inspection
- ☐ Fire Marshal/House Manager and or the Chapter President must be at the house before and during the entirety of the inspection.
- ☐ Conduct a fire drill once a semester during the first 2 weeks of the semester (this will be scheduled through the cliff office)
- ☐ Show the fire safety video at a chapter meeting each semester (this can be checked out at the Cliff Alexander Office)
- ☐ Prepare or revise a permanent fire safety evacuation plan and post in the hallway on each floor
- ☐ Have kitchen fire suppression system inspected by-annually. You will find the necessary contact information and the date of the last inspection on the tag located on the fire suppression system (this may be done by the building owner not house manager in all cases).
- ☐ Maintain the following records:
 - Fire Drills
 - Monthly Self Inspections
 - Official inspection documents provided to the fraternity by the city of oxford and Fire Department
 - Fire evacuation and safety plans



Recognition

Chapters receiving perfect inspections will receive recognition at our annual fraternity and sorority chapter excellence awards. They will also receive monetary awards based off perfect inspections.

Failure to Comply

Fines will be assessed for the following:

- Failure to attend the fire marshal/house manager trainings in August and January (\$200)
- Failure to submit the self inspection form (\$50)
- Failure to submit the inspection log form (\$50)
- Failure to be at the house at time of scheduled inspection (\$200)
- Failure to complete result of inspection requests. If the fire department has to return more than 3 times in one semester due to repeated violations. (\$500)
- Anyone found to be on the roof (\$750) this is a per chapter fine, not per person

***All fines will be collected into the Fraternity Fire Safety Fund and be used for programming and safety initiatives and recognition for the Fraternity and Sorority Community at Miami.

NEW Educational Initiatives ... Programming beyond the house

Partnership with Doug Turnbull

Julie Turnbull's father continues to promote fire safety and awareness and will speaking at the Fall House Manager Training; will provide an opportunity for students to really internalize the importance of following fire codes and safety standards

Updating checklist & Creating Online Self Inspection Form

Community Service Project Fall 2011

Miami Greeks Promote Campus Safety Community Service Project

As part of the National Campus Fire Safety Month: Michael Minger Foundation Campus Fire Community Service Project, the Miami Fraternity and Sorority Community will be inspecting and installing smoke alarms in off campus houses in Oxford. Each Fraternity and Sorority will be identifying three off campus houses in the city of Oxford where they know students live. We are going to be spending three days going around to each of those houses, checking and installing smoke alarms and talking about fire safety in off campus houses. There will be three different teams made up of Oxford Fire Department staff and students and those teams will go out throughout those three days to the homes the students have identified.

Through this program students will learn the importance of educating their peers about fire safety. They will have the opportunity to engage in community service and off campus housed students will have their smoke alarms checked and be provided with information about fire safety.

Thank you for your partnership!

