If you live off campus, you will more than likely have individuals who live nearby. You and your neighbors are what make up your community. Typically positive, thriving communities are those where individuals communicate, talk about problems, discuss possible solutions and respect one another. These types of communities don’t happen just by good luck, they happen because those who live in the community work at it.

Being a good neighbor starts by introducing yourself. It’s a nice way to get to know who lives next door and it’s always better to meet on a positive note. You might find that your neighbor can help you get adjusted to college life, maybe they know the best restaurant in town, the best store in Oneonta or where your advisor’s office is.

Many neighbor issues arise from noise. It’s important to make sure that any activity that can be loud, i.e. listening to music, moving furniture, playing loud video games, etc. is done at a reasonable time of day. You may have a neighbor that works early or has an early morning class; these individuals will be in need of sleep. Talk with those who live around you about acceptable community standards.

It’s important to take ownership in your community. When we are invested in our surroundings, we are less likely to be disrespectful to those around us or our surroundings. Discuss any community related concerns with your landlord and/or community members.

The link below directs individuals to the Village of Delhi Codes. Of particular interest for students living off-campus are: Chapter 102 dealing with alcoholic beverages, Chapter 175 on penalties associated with littering, Chapter 184 on the registration of multiple dwellings, Chapter 192 addressing Noise, and Chapter 199 dealing with the public nuisance law.

http://www.ecode360.com/?custId=DE0305

It should be noted that the Public Nuisance Law states that if any renter or owner of a building are convicted of three or more violations or charges they will then be in violation of the public nuisance law. Violators risk civil action depending on the outcome of an administrative review hearing.