You should know…

These city ordinances and state laws are punishable by fine, loss of license, and/or criminal prosecution. Remember: The Keene State Code of Conduct also applies off campus.

Unlawful Possession of Alcohol: Being found with alcohol if you’re under 21.

Internal Possession of Alcohol: Having a blood alcohol content of .02 or more if you’re under 21.

Misrepresenting Age to Procure Alcohol: Having a false or fake identification to procure alcohol or get into a bar.

Transportation of Alcohol: Operating a vehicle with alcohol in it if you’re under 21.

Open Container of Alcohol: Having an open container of alcohol in public (even if you’re over 21).

Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs: Operating a motor vehicle under the influence of drugs or with a blood alcohol content above the legal limit.

Littering: Discarding beer cans or other garbage.

Possession of Drugs or Drug Paraphernalia: Possessing drugs, pipes, rolling papers, blow tubes, etc.

Possession of Marijuana: Possession of marijuana is illegal in New Hampshire, even if it is a small amount.

Facilitating a Drug or Underage Alcohol House Party: Owning or controlling the occupied house, apartment, or land, where a house party is held at which people are using drugs or underage people are drinking alcohol.

Disorderly Conduct: Purposely or recklessly causing a breach of peace, public inconvenience, annoyance, or alarm.

Fireworks: Buying, selling, storing, or discharging fireworks in the City of Keene.

City Noise Ordinance: Causing a noise disturbance between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m.

Fire Safety

Fires in off-campus apartments are a serious concern. Up to 40 percent of residential fire death victims are impaired by alcohol at the time.

• Don’t use unsafe appliances, candles, or incense.

• Don’t drape fabric over lamps, as it can easily catch fire.

• If you or your guests are going to smoke, do it outdoors, off the porch.

• Don’t tamper with smoke detectors or fire equipment. Malfunctioning/missing equipment can mean life or death in a real fire.
Keep Your Belongings Safe

Always lock your home and car, even if you are leaving for just a minute.

Secure bicycles to fixed objects (please no trees), locking the front wheel and frame together. Register your bike with the City of Keene either at KPD or Campus Safety.

Create an inventory and take pictures of your belongings. Include the make, model, and serial number of your valuables.

Invest in renter’s insurance or ask your family about getting a rider on their insurance policy to cover your apartment.

Keep your prescription medication locked up or out of sight (even from friends and roommates).

Off-Campus Parties or Establishments

Don’t step into a situation that’s gotten physical. Chances are you’ll get hurt and make the situation worse. Instead, get help from trained staff so things can be handled safely, quickly and effectively.

If a friend seems ill, intoxicated or drugged, get help immediately. Don’t worry about getting anyone in trouble. Health and safety are the top concern.

Don’t hamper the efforts of medical or emergency personnel. Get out of the way.

If you’re hosting a gathering that is getting out of hand, don’t wait for your neighbors to call the police. Call it in yourself to get a bad situation under control more quickly.

Safe Traveling

If you’re out at night, walk with friends, and stay in well-lit areas such as Main Street (avoid short cuts and back roads).

• Avoid interacting with intoxicated or drugged individuals; walk away or call the police if you need assistance.

• Travel sober. You’re more likely to take unwise risks when your inhibitions are down and your judgment is impaired.

• Report suspicious activity or people to the Keene Police right away. That might include anyone who appears to be following you or initiating unwanted conversation or anyone or anything that seems out of place or makes you uncomfortable.

• Say “no” to impaired driving and don’t feel bullied into accepting a ride with someone under the influence.

• Report any crimes you may observe or suspect.

• Don’t wear earbuds or talk on the phone while walking — stay aware of your surroundings.

Sexual Assault

• Always get verbal consent from your partner and don’t assume you know what they want. If you’re not absolutely certain, stop and talk about what you do both want.

• Talk to your friends. Agree to look out for each other. Let them know if you plan on leaving with someone, where you’re going, and when you’ll be back.

• Keep an eye on each other. If you see a friend coming on too strong to someone who’s not interested or who may be too drunk to make a consensual decision, interrupt, distract, or redirect the situation.

• If you see someone who may be in a tough position, check in with them. Ask if they’re OK; see if they need a way home. Even if they don’t take you up on it, you’ll send a message that you’re paying attention.

• If you start to feel concern about a person or a situation, trust your feelings and try to remove yourself from the potential threat, even if it is someone you know.

• Report incidents that affect your community, even if you’re not the victim. You can reach the Title IX Office at 603-358-2959 or TitleIX@keene.edu.

• Tell a friend when you are leaving, where you are going, and when you arrive at your location; prolonged absences without contact should be reported to the police.

Reporting Off-Campus Crimes

• Call the Keene Police Department by dialing 911 or 603-357-8813.

• When reporting an incident, remain calm, identify yourself and give a callback phone number, state the incident you are reporting and its location, describe the scene, and stay on the phone until the dispatcher has recorded all of the information.

Safe Renting

If you need maintenance or repairs in your rental, contact your landlord immediately. If you don’t get a response, contact the City of Keene Code enforcement at 603-352-5440 or the Keene State Office of Student and Community Relations at 603-358-2994.

The City of Keene requires landlords to provide safe and sanitary housing for all tenants. All off-campus listings on the keene.edu website have passed the City of Keene’s voluntary inspection program. This program is designed to assure you that the landlord has met Code Enforcement’s safety standards for the rental unit. Check https://ci.keene.nh.us/code-enforcement/ to be sure your rental has been inspected and approved. If not, you can request an inspection through your landlord or directly with the Code Enforcement.