

RUTGERS OFF-CAMPUS LIVING NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2025



RU A GOOD NEIGHBOR?

WHO ARE WE?



We are Off-Campus Living & Community Initiatives. Our goal is to help students understand what their rights are as tenants and responsibilities are as community members. We assist students with their housing search, including education focused on legal issues, safety, security and respect. We work with students, parents, property owners, residents, local businesses, Chaplains, and city officials to establish priorities and create student programming that is reflective of community interests and concerns.

Be well,
Dean Willson, Caryn, Sgt. Correa, and Officer Lugo

STAY SAFE AFTER DARK

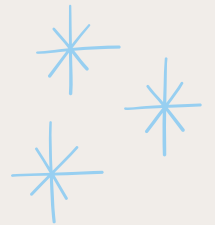
It's that time of year when evenings get darker much earlier. We know you're busy studying for finals and maybe spending late nights in the library or heading home after evening exams. Please avoid walking alone at night whenever possible. If you must, stick to well-lit, open areas. Share your schedule with your roommates and let them know your plans so someone is aware of your whereabouts. Wear bright or reflective clothing and consider carrying a small flashlight or using your phone's flashlight when walking at night. This helps drivers and others see you clearly. Stay alert, focus on your surroundings, and be mindful of everything happening around you.



WINTER WEATHER PREPARATIONS

BEFORE WINTER ARRIVES, MAKE SURE YOU'RE READY FOR SNOW AND ICE! HERE ARE A FEW IMPORTANT TIPS:

- **Stock up on ice melt**—keep rock salt or an environmentally friendly alternative on hand for walkways.
- **Check with your landlord** to confirm who is responsible for shoveling snow and clearing ice. Is it you and your roommates, or does the landlord handle it?
- **Shovel responsibly**—never push snow into the street. It creates hazards for emergency vehicles and drivers.
- **Know parking rules during snowstorms**—some streets prohibit parking when it snows. A full list can be found at:
→ <https://www.njnbpa.org/parking-info/snow-parking/>.



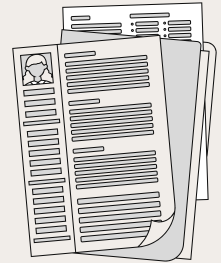
STAY SAFE AND PREPARED THIS WINTER!

WINTER BREAK PREPARATIONS

HEADING HOME FOR WINTER BREAK? MAKE SURE YOUR APARTMENT IS SECURE AND READY FOR YOUR RETURN. HERE'S A QUICK CHECKLIST:



- **Clean your apartment** and take out all trash and recycling.
- **Empty your refrigerator**—invite friends over and finish what you can! Leaving food behind can lead to unpleasant surprises.
- **Dispose of holiday decorations** before you leave.
- **Secure your valuables** and take home any items you can.
- **Record serial numbers** of electronics and devices for safety.
- **Unplug electronics and small appliances** to save energy and reduce risk.
- **Close and lock windows** and draw blinds or curtains.
- **Use light timers** to make it look like someone is home.
- **Put a hold on your mail**—piled-up mail signals an empty apartment.
- **Pack essentials** like medications, keys, and glasses.
- **Turn down your heat** to about 65°F or “low.” Never turn it off—pipes can burst in freezing temps.
- **Lock all doors** before you leave.



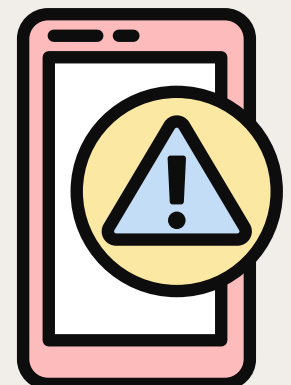
TAKING THESE STEPS WILL HELP YOU RETURN TO A CLEAN, SAFE, AND STRESS-FREE HOME AFTER BREAK!

STAY CONNECTED – REGISTER YOUR OFF-CAMPUS ADDRESS

If you're a student renting in the local community, please take a moment to register your **local address** and **emergency contact information** with our office.

This helps us keep you **informed about important municipal updates, programming, emergency alerts**, and other useful information related to living off-campus.

Visit → <https://go.rutgers.edu/offcampusreg>



FROM OUR KITCHEN TO YOURS

RECIPE CORNER



It's important to eat healthy meals during finals so you can function at your best—mentally and physically. When you're juggling study sessions and deadlines, quick and nutritious dinners are key.

Here's a simple dinner that's cooked entirely on a sheet pan. Minimal prep, easy cleanup, and full of flavor!

SHEET PAN CHICKEN WITH SWEET POTATOES & BROCCOLI

Ingredients:

- 1 sweet potato, cut into small chunks (no need to peel)
- 1-2 cups broccoli florets, chopped into bite-sized pieces
- 1 chicken breast, cut into evenly sized pieces
- Olive oil
- Salt & pepper to taste
- Balsamic vinegar (for drizzling)



Instructions:

1. Preheat your oven to 400°F.
2. Spray a cookie sheet with cooking spray.
3. Spread the sweet potato chunks and broccoli florets on the sheet.
4. Drizzle with olive oil and season with salt and pepper.
5. Roast in the oven for 15 minutes.
6. While the veggies roast, cut the chicken breast into small, even pieces.
7. After 15 minutes, add the chicken to the sheet pan.
8. Return to the oven and roast for another 20 minutes, or until the chicken is cooked through and no longer pink.
9. Drizzle with balsamic vinegar before serving.

STUDENT BASIC NEEDS/RUTGERS FOOD PANTRY—ALL STUDENTS

At some point in a college student's education journey, they may face challenges in accessing adequate amounts of food, housing, financial or other resources.

To ensure that basic needs are met for all Rutgers students, on-campus resources and those available in the surrounding community are listed throughout the **<http://basicneeds.rutgers.edu/>** website including:

- Food Assistance
- Housing Assistance
- Emergency Aid
- Mental, Physical, & Spiritual Wellness
- Utility Assistance
- Internet & Technology
- Child Care Resources
- Faculty & Staff Resources

Website: <http://basicneeds.rutgers.edu/> website

Instagram: @RUBasicNeeds

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/RUbasicneeds>

