

## Friendly Facts

The City of Joliet Neighborhood Services Division offers the following guidelines to all Joliet residents to promote compliance with City Ordinances.

### Property Maintenance:

- **Garbage** stored outdoors must be in containers made of hard plastic or metal with tight-fitting lids. The garbage should be placed in heavy paper or plastic bags before it is placed in the container. All 2 - 4 unit buildings are required to have one toter per unit. Toters are available from Waste Management at (815) 280-7854. Garbage cannot be put out for collection prior to 6:30p.m. the night before the scheduled pickup. All empty containers must be removed within ten (10) hours of collection and placed out of sight of the street.
- **Inoperable and/or unregistered vehicles** cannot be stored on any property within the City unless specifically permitted by zoning. Parking vehicles on lawns for any purpose is strictly prohibited.
- **Lawn maintenance** is the responsibility of the property owner or tenant. Grass and weeds must be cut regularly so they do not exceed eight (8) inches in height. The trimming of trees/shrubs and clearing away of rubbish and debris is required in alleyways and parkways as well.
- **Swimming pools** cannot be placed in front yards or required corner side yards. Pools must be enclosed by a fence or wall of a minimum height of four (4) feet. A building permit is required for the construction or erection of a swimming pool. Information regarding permits is available by calling (815) 724-4070.
- **Dogs** are not allowed to run at large within the city limits. Dogs must wear a collar and be held on a leash on public property or an unenclosed place. Dog feces must be picked up and discarded. Owners cannot permit a dog to bark, howl or whine in a loud manner, disturbing the peace and quiet of persons living nearby. City residents are allowed a maximum of two dogs.
- **Music** should always be kept at an appropriate volume. At no time shall music be played in a manner which either annoys, disturbs, injures or endangers the comfort, peace or safety of other persons or the public.

### Housing

- **Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors** are required in all buildings containing bedrooms and sleeping facilities. Smoke detectors are required on each floor, including the basement, within fifteen (15) feet of each bedroom and in each bedroom and stairway. Carbon monoxide detectors are required within fifteen (15) feet of every bedroom.
- **Hallways and exits free of obstructions** are required for fire safety. Hallways are not to be used as storage areas. Rental dwelling units are to be kept clean, sanitary, and free of rodents/roaches.
- **Heat requirements** are in effect from September 1st to May 15th of the following year. During this period, a landlord must supply sufficient heat to maintain room temperature of not less than sixty-five (65) degrees Fahrenheit between 6:30 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. and not less than sixty (60) degrees Fahrenheit during other hours. Gas space heaters as a supplemental heating source must be properly vented.
- **Overcrowding:** A bedroom occupied by one person must contain 70 sq. ft. of floor area (minimum of 7 ft. wide). Each bedroom occupied by more than one person shall contain at least 50 sq. ft. per occupant. Additionally, a dwelling unit can only be occupied by one family, which is defined as one or two persons or parents with their children and no more than two (2) other non-related people.
- **Basements are considered non-habitable areas for living quarters** because they usually do not meet local codes. Ceilings must be a certain height and windows must be large enough and low enough for exiting, especially in the case of an emergency. Allowing persons to live in a basement often results in an overcrowding situation, which is prohibited.

- **Complaints** should be reported directly to the City's Complaint Desk at (815) 724-4005. The city staff person will ask you for the address of the property and the nature of the complaint. You are not required to give your name.

If you need this information in Spanish please call (815) 724-4090. Si usted necesita esta información en español por favor llame al (815) 724-4090.