EMBRACE A PLACE

Living The Good Life Presentation

Presented by:
Residence Life Assistant Resident Directors

Spring 2015
The intent of this program is to provide unbiased information so you can make an educated decision about the living option that best matches your financial and personal situation.

The information was gathered through contacting these sources: Local landlords and rental agencies, Bozeman Daily Chronicle, Northwestern Energy, Century Link, Optimum and Allied Waste Services.
OPTIONS

- Residence Halls
- Fraternity & Sorority Housing
- Family & Graduate Housing
- Apartment
- Condo
- House
OFF CAMPUS HOUSING

- Apartment
  - 1-3 bedroom options
  - Could be part of a complex, property management company or a private landlord

- Condo/Townhouse
  - 2-4 bedrooms options
  - Could be managed by a property management company or through a private landlord

- House
  - Usually offer 2-5 bedrooms options
  - Could be managed by a property management company or through a private landlord
OFF CAMPUS HOUSING

Where to begin...

• Type of living environment?
• Roommates & expectations
• Create a shopping list:
  • Washer/Dryer in unit
  • Dishwasher
  • Utilities included
  • Fireplace
  • Balcony/outside space
  • # of bedrooms/bathrooms
  • Pet friendly?
• Collect information on landlords and rental agencies
• Have a list of references ready
• Secure funds for rent & security deposit
OFF CAMPUS HOUSING

During the Search

• Dress appropriately
• Visit the neighborhood at different times of the day
• ALWAYS keep appointments and show up on time
• Look at many units before making the final decision
• Do a careful walk through to determine upkeep of unit and any repairs that may be needed
• Try to talk to the neighbors
• Finding the right place takes time...don’t get discouraged.
Make sure you fully understand the lease...don’t be afraid to ask questions
  • Utilities?
  • Pet policy?
  • Maintenance of unit?
  • Penalty for breaking the lease or damage to the apartment?

Ask to call a former tenant of the unit to ask about typical utility bills, landlord’s responsiveness, issues with the unit, neighborhood, etc.

Ask to revisit your final choice again and do a final walkthrough to be certain it is what you want to rent
Moving In

• Assess unit’s current condition. Landlord should provide a list of unit condition. Take pictures of any pre-existing damages.
• Invest in renter’s insurance!!!!
• Develop a roommate contract
  • Rules regarding guests/social gatherings
  • Cleaning schedule
  • Rules regarding groceries/use of common areas
• Set up utilities
  • Cable and internet can take up to two weeks. Call for an appointment early.
  • Electricity/gas, Garbage service switched into your name
RESIDENCE HALLS

Sophomore and Above Living Options

- Headwaters Complex
  - Convenience of close proximity to campus
  - Single bedroom
  - Shared bathroom with 1-3 other people
  - Common living area with TV provided
  - Refrigerator and microwave provided in suite
  - Break housing at no additional charge
  - Summer housing available
  - Clubhouse and kitchen area

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RESIDENCE HALLS

Sophomore and Above Living Options

• Roskie Deluxe Singles
  • Remodeled rooms provide more space
  • Carpet in rooms
  • Wooden moveable furniture
  • Best views on campus
  • Building features include:
    • Game room
    • Kitchen
    • Ski wax room
    • Laundry rooms on every floor
    • Piano and large screen TV
RESIDENCE HALLS

Sophomore and Above Living Options

• South Hedges Sophomore & Above
  • Co-ed
  • Programming to help you be successful your Sophomore Year

• Johnstone Center: 21 and older
  • Carpeted large or small single rooms with sinks
Available to undergraduate students with 72+ credits or who have lived in the Residence Halls for five semesters.

Apartment living with the convenience of living on campus.

Grant-Chamberlin Drive:
- Roommate or single occupancy options
- Approx 600 sq. ft.
- Rent approx $300-600/month.
  - Includes laundry, water, garbage, heat, electricity and one reserved plug-in parking stall
- Furnished or unfurnished units available
FAMILY & GRADUATE HOUSING

- Nelson Story & Peter Koch Towers:
  - Single occupancy units
  - Approx 400 sq. ft.
  - Rent $550/month.
    - Includes laundry, all utilities and cable TV
  - Furnished or unfurnished units
Fraternity and Sorority members are required to live in for a certain amount of time. Each chapter’s policies are different.

- Home like environment
  - Living areas and expansive dining rooms and kitchens
  - Study rooms
  - Most chapters have a cook
  - Multiple bathrooms

- Sororities employ a “house mother” or “house director”

- Living costs include parking, laundry, cable, internet, phone and more.

- Some chapters have sleeping floors and a room where the resident studies, keeps their personal items, etc.

For more information visit their website: [www.montana.edu/fslife](http://www.montana.edu/fslife)
## HOW TO CHOOSE?

### Items To Consider

#### On Campus
- **Transportation:**
  - Walk to class in 5 mins
  - Parking space
  - Close to campus events
- **Meal prep:**
  - Meals prepared for you
- **Cleaning:**
  - Custodians to clean common areas and bathrooms
  - Food service magic blue conveyer belt
- **Community:**
  - Feel a part of campus
  - 20-50 friends right down the hall
  - Programming and education opportunities

#### Off Campus
- **Transportation:**
  - 15-20 min commute
  - Gas costs
  - Parking space
- **Meal prep:**
  - Prepare your own meals
- **Cleaning:**
  - Coordinate with roommates to determine cleaning schedule
  - Responsibility for lawn care/snow removal
- **Community:**
  - Become a part of the Bozeman community
  - 3-5 of your closest friends living together
  - Social gatherings when you want them

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One time fee includes: (payment plans are available)

- Room
- 3 meals per day + snacks
- Garbage service
- Water and sewer service
- Gas and electricity
- Cable TV
- Phone line
- Internet access
- On-site Resident Advisors, custodians and maintenance

Optional break housing available for Thanksgiving ($40), Winter Break ($290), Spring Break ($80). No additional cost to students who live in the Headwaters Complex!
OFF-CAMPUS COSTS

- **Rent** - Monthly rent costs.
- **Security Damage Deposit** – normally equal to one month’s rent (you may not receive this back if there is damage to the unit)
- **Garbage** - Approx. $50/quarterly
- **Water and Sewer** - $20-$100 per month
- **Gas and Electricity** - can range from $50 a month in summer to $180 a month in winter.
- **Transportation costs to and from campus**
- **Laundry** - Some places have washer/dryer hook-ups or provide a washer/dryer. Laundromat costs range from $1.50-$1.75 per wash or dry.
- **Cable** – basic packages start at $30 and go up to $75 per month. Installation costs, 2 year contracts, and “bundles” with internet/phone will affect cost.
- **Telephone** – $30-50 a month. Installation charges and “bundling” services could affect costs.
- **Internet** - $30 - $60 a month for basic internet. Installation charges and “bundling” could effect costs.

*When researching off campus housing options, make sure to ask what additional costs you are responsible for*
MODEST MEALS
(approx. $200 per month)

• Daily Total: $6.41

• Monthly Total (30 days): $192.30

* This $200.00 does not include snacks or any meals eaten in restaurants! *
NON MODEST MEALS

**Breakfast:** Omelet
- 3 Eggs: $0.55
- Sausage: $0.70
- Cheddar Cheese: $0.72
- Mushrooms: $0.07
- Red Peppers: $0.34
- Onion: $0.04
- Orange Juice: $0.49
- Greek Yogurt: $1.29
- Package of Blueberries: $2.00

Total: $6.20

**Dinner:** Fettuccine Alfredo w/Shrimp
- Fettuccine: $0.30
- Alfredo Sauce: $0.88
- Parmesan Cheese: $0.49
- Shrimp: $1.84
- Frozen Peas: $0.48
- Naked Juice: $3.99

Total: $7.98

**Lunch:** Soup and Sandwich
- Fresh Bread: $0.50
- Roast Beef: $3.37
- Cheese: $0.72
- Lettuce: $0.08
- Tomatoes: $.20
- Vegetable Soup: $1.29
- 20 oz. Soda: $1.59

Total: $7.74

- Daily Total: $21.92
- Monthly Total (30 days): $657.60

*Remember it takes time and money to prepare meals*
## HELPFUL INFORMATION

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<th>Costs</th>
<th>Residence Halls</th>
<th>Living option #1</th>
<th>Living option #2</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Food (average monthly cost)</td>
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<td>Trash (average monthly cost)</td>
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<td>Total Cost</td>
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Before you leave, pick up:

- Cost comparison worksheet
- List of rental agencies in the Bozeman area
- List of service providers for cable/satellite TV, phone and internet service, garbage and electricity.
As a returning student to the Residence Halls:

- Priority status over incoming freshmen
- Priority placement to a double as single if you apply by February 18th
- Eligible to live in the Headwaters Complex or Roskie 10th & 11th Deluxe Singles
- No financial obligation until March 31st