

OHIO ECOHOUSE APPLICATION PROCESS

Application & Deadline:

Application for residing in the OHIO Ecohouse will be accepted until 5 p.m. on Monday, November 30th, 2009 for the following lease year (July 1-June 30). Applications may be obtained online at the University Apartments Website (www.ohio.edu/housing, University Apartments) Online Forms section.

Interested and eligible students must complete a comprehensive application that lists their interests, goals and past experiences as it relates to sustainable living as well as agree to sign a one year lease July 1 – June 30). A balance of graduate and undergraduate students (maximum of three) will share the living space.

Application must include a 1,000 word essay stating why the candidate would like to live in the OHIO Ecohouse and how their experiences would positively contribute to the living environment. Applicant must also have a serious commitment to the overall philosophy of energy conservation, organic gardening, and sustainable living and be willing to maintain the living environment as a “responsible zone” maintaining the residential expectation as in any other University owned apartment.

Three references are required to be submitted with the application. References should be from University Professors, Directors or Officers of Associated Organizations, or past supervisor in an employment position related to the mission of the Ecohouse.

Eligibility:

- Students must be eligible to live off campus by having either 90 credit hours, 6 quarters in residency, or be eligible for a standard exemption.
- Completed application and essay
- Agree to all terms and conditions of the lease and student lifestyle guidelines listed below.

OHIO Ecohouse Student Lifestyle Guidelines

- Residents will follow Ohio University Student Code of Conduct.
- Residents will minimize consumption, refraining from accumulating unnecessary products.
- Residents will work to minimize waste, using durable goods in place of disposables and reusing materials whenever possible.
- Residents will sort the waste that is generated appropriately, emphasizing recycling and composting whenever possible.
- Residents will work to increase self-sufficiency by growing/harvesting their own food.
- Residents will agree with a house consensus before planting new crops, or making significant landscaping changes.
- Residents will buy local first, especially food, and consider lifecycle costs in all purchases.

- Residents will emphasize the use of low impact chemicals for things like cleaning, (such as bio-degradable soaps) and, whenever possible, will avoid the use of unnecessary chemicals altogether.
- Residents will maintain an agreed upon, equitable division and distribution of labor.
- Residents will keep a written record of all projects and experiments, and their results, for continuous improvement of the home.
- Residents will maintain an appropriate, but certainly alternative, exterior house presentation. Interior furniture should be inside.
- Residents will not litter, and will maintain a litter free property.
- Residents will maintain a cleanliness and organization of their belongings that is presentable during tours.
- Residents will use low impact transportation whenever possible, such as a bike.
- Residents will appropriately conserve and recycle resources such as water, electricity, heat, space, and goods. This means reducing waste both directly and indirectly. The residents will work to generate ideas and procedures to increase self-sufficiency with respect to resource use.

Selection Process:

Selection is a competitive process. Applications and essay of eligible students will be reviewed by selection committee on a rolling basis with interviews held to select final candidates. Current tenants of Ecohouse will be invited to interview the final candidates and make recommendations to the committee.

The selection committee will be comprised of the following individuals:

Director of Housing
Sustainability Coordinator
Coordinator University Apartments

Questions should be directed to:

Sustainability Coordinator, Sonia Marcus
(740) 593-0026, sustainability@ohio.edu