



## Living in the Town of Elon Frequently Asked Questions

Welcome to the Town of Elon. We are pleased that you will be a part of our community. To help ensure that you will have an enjoyable experience, here are some helpful tips to remember while living off campus.

### **1. Be respectful of your neighbors by keeping the noise down.**

Within the Town of Elon, it is unlawful for anyone to create or assist in creating any unreasonably loud, disturbing sound levels **at any time during the day or night**. Additionally, the playing of any musical instrument or use of electronic sound amplification equipment in such manner or with such volume such that a reasonably prudent person would recognize as likely to disturb persons in the vicinity, especially between 11:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. If the Elon Police Department arrives on your doorstep for a noise complaint at any time during the day or night, you may find yourself dealing with a fine, jail time, and court costs because you were disrespectful of your neighbors.

### **2. Pull your trash cans back to the house.**

Place your solid waste and recycling containers at the curb no earlier than the day before they are to be picked up. The receptacles must be removed from the curb and brought back to the side or rear of the house no later than the day after pick up has occurred. By not doing this, you are subject to a fine. The fines are tiered: \$50 for the first offence, \$100 for the second offence, and \$250 for each offence thereafter. If you need additional waste or recycling containers, contact the Town of Elon Public Works department at (336) 584-9600. Additional recycling containers are \$50 each. These containers are assigned to the property you are living in and do not travel to your new home with you.

### **3. Do not throw your trash on the ground around your house.**

Throwing trash on the ground is a violation of the code of ordinances and can be considered both a civil and a criminal act. Nuisance violations are fined using a tiered structure: \$50 for the first offence, \$100 for the second offence, and \$250 for each offence thereafter. Chronic violations trigger a notice to the property owner, who is charged for the cost of cleanup plus a \$250 fine for each subsequent violation. Should the Elon Police Department arrive on your doorstep because of trash at your residence, you can be charged with a misdemeanor. Sack your trash and put it in the waste receptacle. If you need additional waste or recycling containers, contact the Town of Elon Public Works department at (336) 584-9600. Additional recycling containers are \$50 each. These containers are assigned to the property you are living in and do not travel to your new home with you.

### **4. Mow your grass.**

The grass around your rental home must be mowed regularly. If the grass reached 8 inches high or higher, it is considered a nuisance violation and is fined using the same tiered structure as for trash cans: \$50 for the first offence, \$100 for the second offence, and \$250 for each offence thereafter. Chronic violations trigger a notice to the property owner, who is charged for the cost of cleanup plus a \$250 fine for each subsequent violation. Should the Town have to mow the grass, a \$100 administrative fee and the costs incurred to mow the grass in addition to the fines will also apply. Take 30 minutes and mow the grass. It is great exercise and helps keep the mice and snakes at bay and keeps your landlord happy.

**5. Water must be in your name unless specifically designated in your lease.**

Read your lease and determine if water and sewer service is included in your rent payment. If so, you will not need to turn on service. If your water service is not included in your rent: Go online to [www.townofelon.com](http://www.townofelon.com), click on the tab labeled “Students”, click on “[Utility and Notary Information](#)”, then click on [Water/Sewer](#) and follow the instructions on the page. Fill out the [water turn on service application](#) and email it to [elonwater@ci.elon.nc.us](mailto:elonwater@ci.elon.nc.us). After you have emailed the completed form you can call the Town at (336) 584-3601 to provide your credit card information for the water service deposit of \$125.00. To receive same day service, you must come in before 4:00 p.m. The Municipal Building is located at 104 S. Williamson Avenue.

If water is on when you arrive, call the Town to avoid disconnection. The phone number is (336) 584-3601. Once your service is active, payments can be made online using MasterCard, Visa, and Discover or drop by the Municipal Building.

**6. If you damage your rental home to such a degree that it is declared uninhabitable, you will be without a place to live, and what the law says is uninhabitable may be different from what you think.**

The town’s Code Enforcement Officer is authorized to inspect homes for habitability. Should the officer receive notice that the dwelling you live in has damaged toilets, destroyed or damaged walls, trash accumulation, or a wide variety of other issues, the officer is authorized to inspect the dwelling and can deem the home uninhabitable. This means that you will be required to exit the property immediately and will not be able to return until the dwelling has been repaired to the standards of the town’s minimum housing requirements.

**7. The railroad tracks are private property so crossing in areas not designated for pedestrians is trespassing and dangerous.**

Please cross the tracks at the designated crossings. In recent years, there have been several accidents as a result of students being on the railroad tracks. We strongly encourage you to use the designated crossings. You can be cited for [trespassing](#), which is a Class 3 misdemeanor and you could spend up to 20 days in jail, if you choose to cross anywhere else or walk down the tracks. The fence along the railroad is there to keep you safe and from trespassing on private property.

**8. Do not park in the yard.**

It is now illegal to park on any unpaved surface. An unpaved surface is defined as any surface other than a drive, such as, but not limited to, grass and dirt. Please park your vehicles in the driveway, which is defined as any portion of the lot affording access to the street and paved with concrete compacted stone, asphalt, brick or paving stones and not exceeding thirty (30) percent of the front or side corner yard.

**9. Keep the indoor furniture inside your home.**

The porch, carport, and yard of your home is considered an open space. If you place indoor furniture, such as a couch or recliner, in an open space area, it is considered a public nuisance, which will incur a notice of violation and fines will be issued. Please keep the indoor furniture inside and invest in outdoor furniture for the porch.

The Code of Ordinances can be found on the town’s website - [www.townofelon.com](http://www.townofelon.com). Please contact town staff if you have any questions. The main number is (336)584-3601. We are here to help.