

OCL Newsletter

June 1st, 2026

“Green was the silence, wet was the light, the month of June trembled like a butterfly.”

— Pablo Neruda, *100 Love Sonnets*

Hello, Wildcats! We made it to the final newsletter of the 2025–2026 academic year! As finals season begins and summer break gets closer, we want to remind you to breathe, rest, and take care of yourself while finishing strong. You have worked hard, grown a lot, and made it through another big year. To our graduating students: Congratulations! We are so excited to celebrate you and cheer you on as you begin your next chapter.

We are the Off-Campus Life office (OCL), your first point of contact for navigating the challenges and opportunities of off-campus living in Evanston and Chicago, and we provide ongoing support throughout the year!

Thank You Message From OCL

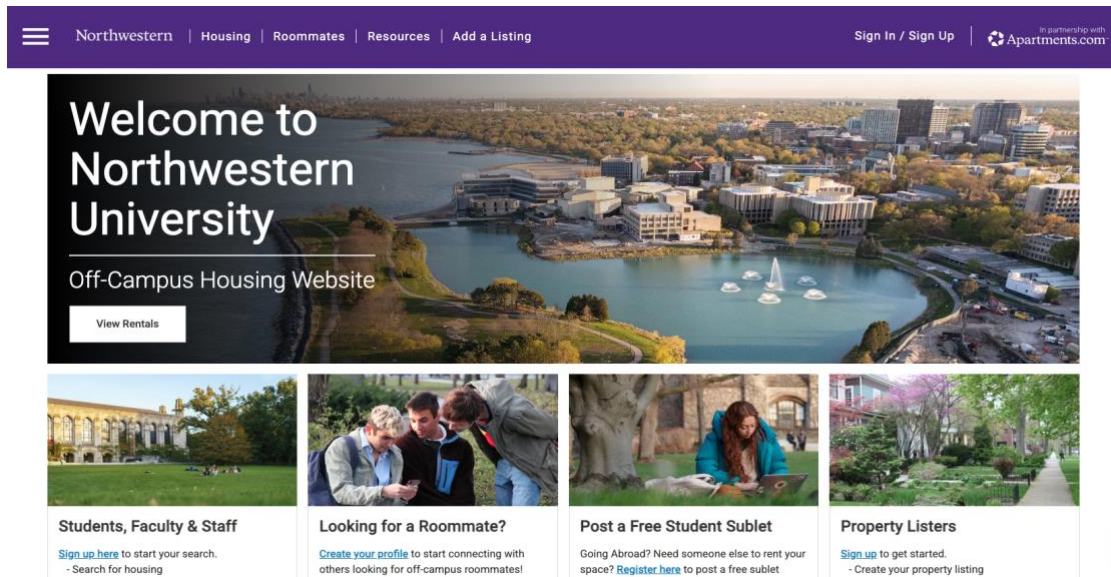
[Thank you for being part of Off-Campus Life this year!](#) We are so grateful to everyone who joined our events, shared conversations, and helped make each gathering welcoming and meaningful. We hope you learned something useful, had fun, and maybe even met a few new friends along the way.

For the entire OCL team, it has been a joy to see YOU show up, connect, and build community together. We cannot wait to connect with many of you again next year! We will also be sharing some highlight photos from our events on Instagram, so feel free to check them out—and maybe even spot yourself in a few pictures: [@Northwestern_LOC!](#)

Looking to Sublet?

Northwestern’s [Off-Campus Housing Website](#) is now a go-to resource for students searching for housing near campus. Through the site, students can browse rental listings, look for roommates, post free sublets, and explore housing-related resources designed to

support the off-campus housing search. It offers one convenient place to start planning for your next move and explore available options.



Ready To Move Out?

As you prepare to move out of your rental, take time to plan ahead and leave the space in good condition. Before you go, clean all rooms, remove personal items, take photos of the unit, return your keys on time, and confirm any final steps with your landlord or property manager. Students should also update their local address in CAESAR and ensure that any utilities or other rental-related accounts are closed or transferred. Please donate, recycle, or properly dispose of unwanted items instead of leaving them behind. See some quick tips on our Instagram ([@Northwestern_LOC](#)) or our [website](#).

Friendly Reminder: Bulk Trash Pick-Up

[The City of Evanston](#) normally requires residents to schedule and pay for special bulk trash pick-ups. However, as many students prepare to move out, Northwestern partners with the City to offer designated bulk pick-up days in the neighborhood. Special Bulk Pick-Up Dates: June 9, June 16, June 23, June 30. To take advantage of this service, place your bulk

items at your regular trash collection site by 7:00 AM on the listed dates. Do not leave bulk trash out on non-scheduled days – you could face fines from the City and complaints from neighbors! If you live outside the designated area, you can request a bulk pick-up by calling 311.

Be a leader for democracy: NU Votes Ambassador Applications Open!

NU Votes is seeking undergrad and grad students from across campus to serve as Ambassadors for the 2026 Midterm Election this fall. Ambassadors facilitate nonpartisan voter registration, education, and turnout efforts. Gain hands-on experience in civic engagement and develop leadership, marketing, and organizing skills. Empower your peers to shape the government they want in the upcoming election! Learn more and apply to be part of our nationally recognized team at nuvotes.org/become-an-ambassador.

Email to reach out to: nuvotes@northwestern.edu

Things You Might Be Interested In

NUSC Northwestern Student Open House

Celebrate the start of summer by stopping by the [NUSC Northwestern Student Open House](#) on June 2! Students can enjoy lakefront fun, tours, equipment demos, complimentary kayak and SUP rentals, and giveaways. It is a great chance to relax after a busy year, explore Northwestern's lakefront activities, and spend time with friends before summer break begins.

168th Annual Commencement

Join the Northwestern community in celebrating the Class of 2026 at the [168th Annual Commencement](#) on June 14. This special ceremony honors the hard work, growth, and achievements of graduating students as they prepare to begin their next chapter.

Congratulations to all graduates—we are so thrilled to celebrate this major milestone with you!

Graduating Students' Reception

Graduating students are invited to continue the celebration at the [Graduating Students' Reception](#) on June 14. This reception is a wonderful opportunity to gather with classmates, friends, and the Northwestern community, enjoy light refreshments, and celebrate everything you have accomplished. Come connect, take photos, and close out your Northwestern journey with joy!

Sidewalk Safety

As the weather gets warmer, please remember that riding bicycles, scooters, skateboards, in-line skates, and roller skates on sidewalks in Downtown Evanston is not allowed. Riders should use the street or dismount and walk when using downtown sidewalks. The City of Evanston has [published a map of the area and posted sidewalk decals and signs](#) to remind everyone to keep sidewalks safe and accessible for pedestrians. Thank you for helping make Downtown Evanston safer and more welcoming for all.



Downtown Evanston 3rd Annual Downtown

Summer Sounds

Downtown Evanston is bringing music back to the heart of the city with the 3rd annual [Downtown Summer Sounds](#), a free outdoor concert series from July 9th to September 3rd at Fountain Square. This summer event invites community members, visitors, families, and music lovers to gather downtown and enjoy live performances in a welcoming public space. The series highlights Evanston's vibrant local culture while encouraging people to explore nearby restaurants, shops, and businesses before or after the concerts. With free admission and a lively summer atmosphere, Downtown Summer Sounds is a great opportunity to connect with the community and enjoy evenings of music in downtown Evanston.



Maxwell Street Market

Looking for a fun way to explore Chicago? [Maxwell Street Market](#) is Chicago's oldest open-air market, with roots going back more than 100 years. The market features food vendors, handmade crafts, resale goods, clothing, jewelry, home goods, and live entertainment. It is also connected to Chicago's immigrant history and the development of Chicago-style blues. The market is held one Sunday a month from May through October, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., with free admission.



Off-Campus Housing

Some of you may be looking for a new place or hoping to sublet your current place. OCL does not host a listing service but *does* partner with one: [Off-Campus Housing](#). *Off-Campus Housing* can be utilized as you search for a new apartment, and to list a sublet. It is the only listing service that Off Campus Life recommends to landlords or rental companies who would like to rent to the Northwestern Community, as well as Northwestern students, faculty, or Staff looking to rent. Students can utilize *Off-Campus Housing* **for free**, including listing a sublet.

Want to Discuss Your Off-Campus Life Experience?

Whether you have a leasing, sub-leasing, landlord, roommate, or community question, we are happy to connect.

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