

Community Agreement

OM Village is a self-governing community made up of members of Occupy Madison, Inc, a 501(c)(3) organization governed by its by-laws and based on principles of human dignity and self-sufficiency.

Community Agreement/Pledge

I will be a positive member of this community and contribute toward making it a safe, secure, and clean place to live. Therefore, I agree to the following:

- a. I will be a good neighbor. The way I interact will be based on dignity, safety, good guardianship, honesty, and respect for myself and others.
- b. I will not use my resources or position to manipulate others. I will work to become aware of any ways in which my resources or my position in the community may lead me to have, or lead others to perceive that I have, more power compared to others.
- c. We all have the right to expect dignity and opportunity. I will not disrespect others based on sex, race, religion, color, national origin or ancestry, citizenship status, age, handicap/disability, marital status, source of income, arrest record, conviction record, less than honorable discharge, physical appearance, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic identity, political beliefs, familial status, student status, domestic partnership status, receipt of assistance, unemployment or status as a victim of domestic abuse, sexual assault, or stalking, or economic status.
- d. For my own safety as well as the safety of others, I will not wield a weapon or act violently toward others or myself. No firearms are permitted on the premises of Occupy Madison.
- e. I will respect other people's property and I expect other people to respect mine. I will respect community property and space. I will not appropriate but gain permission to make use of anything or space not my own which would deprive others of its benefit. No property may be thrown away without following disposal and space use rules decided by the membership. I will also abide by village-specific policies which may differ from one village to another, such as; substances, pets, space usage, storage, guests, and more. Such policies must not conflict with the community agreement and are adopted either by each village's consent as a whole or, when that cannot be achieved, then by approval of at least $\frac{3}{4}$ of any villages' total residents.
- f. Misuse of drugs and alcohol can damage the community. I agree to follow all drug and alcohol policies adopted by the membership.
- g. I will honor quiet hours set by Village residents, so that others and myself can stay healthy and rested. "Quiet" does not preclude people talking in a normal tone of voice, or sound that does not travel beyond the premises. It does preclude use of power tools and other excessive noise, subject to Madison General Ordinances. Members will not allow anyone other than personally known, invited guests to be on the property after 8pm. (The Tiny House Contract covers overnight guests.) Members are responsible for invited guests.

h. Stewards will keep the area in and around where they live clean and orderly and will not store personal items outside of the building footprint or allocated storage space, as agreed upon.

i. I will help keep the community areas clean.

j. I will pick up after my pet immediately. I will keep my pet leashed at all times or in a temporary enclosure. I will follow pet policies as adopted by the membership. No pets are allowed in the shop during official shop hours, nor the retail area during official store hours, nor in any area where food is prepared.

k. Stewards will maintain the safety equipment inside Tiny Houses (smoke detector, carbon monoxide detector, fire extinguisher) and agree not to have open flames inside Tiny Houses.

l. I agree to participate in the work of self-governance, including governance meetings, the conflict resolution process, and agreed-upon approaches to de-escalation of any conflicts.

m. I know there are costs to keep the residential area running. Stewards will support the goal of self-sufficiency by contributing in a sustainable way appropriate to individual circumstances.

n. I will exercise my responsibility for the safety and security of the community. For life-threatening emergencies or physical injury requiring immediate medical assistance, I will call 911.

o. If I observe behavior or circumstances that threaten the stability or well-being of OM Village or puts my safety or another person's safety at risk, or if I observe any type of harassment or coercion, I will bring that situation to the attention of the immediate shop manager and/or OMI Board, as appropriate. This does not apply to the dispute resolution process.

p. In order to be in compliance with Occupy Madison's 501(c)(3) status as a not-for-profit organization, I will not exploit my relationship with Occupy Madison, Inc. for personal gain.

q. Per Wisconsin state ordinances, I will not smoke (Includes electronic devices) in public or common areas. Smoking will be limited to outdoors or designated areas as described by Wisconsin statute.

OM Village is a place where people value community and support each other. I acknowledge that the success of OM Village depends upon my and everyone else's cooperation and willingness to abide by this agreement. This is not just for myself, but for other people who aspire to participate in this village or another village, for which this could be a model. Therefore, I promise to abide by all of these agreements and others that may be developed by the membership.

Signature _____ Date _____

Witness _____ Date _____

**Adapted from Opportunity Village, Eugene, Oregon, as reported in Andrew Heben's Tent City Urbanism,

published by The Village Collaborative (2014) and approved by the OMI Board November 20, 2014

following numerous community meetings.

Approved February 23, 2015

Revision Approvals

Rev 2: Approved by General Membership, September 12, 2021