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# GREEK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION newsletter

For Greek Sector updates, announcements, and information at Georgia Tech

## SECURING YOUR HOUSE AND PROPERTY: BY OFFICER BRAD LATHAM, GEORGIA TECH POLICE DEPARTMENT

As the end of the semester is quickly approaching please stay focused on keeping your fraternities safe and secure. Taking some small steps can go a long way in preventing loss of property and unwanted persons inside the houses.

Speak with all of the occupants and those who frequent the chapter house to make sure they know to keep the main access points locked to prevent easy access. Doors that are propped open or door codes that are never changed lead to a host of problems. Secure the door and change the front door codes frequently.

If there is a party scheduled at the house, be sure to speak with all of the occupants and get them to secure their bedroom doors. This helps reduce the number of easy opportunities for someone to steal something from the house. If you see someone who does not belong in

your house be sure to give us a call and we will have officers come deal with that person(s).

If spare rooms are being rented out over the summer, be sure to have a safety briefing with the occupants (invite us!) and let them know the Do's and Don'ts while living at the house.

Remember that GTPD is here to make sure you stay safe and that includes your Greek house and property. We encourage you to reach out to us at to schedule a safety class. We are also available to do a physical security check of your house and make recommendations on how to better secure and protect the property (lighting, locks, cameras, landscaping, etc).

### Contact GTPD:

crimeprevention@  
police.gatech.edu

<http://police.gatech.edu/services/class/>

404-894-2500

## HAVE A QUESTION?

Check out <http://greek.gatech.edu/content/18/greek-facilities> for resources and documents. Or contact Kylie Corcoran, Greek Affairs Coordinator at 404-894-2002 or [kylie@gatech.edu](mailto:kylie@gatech.edu).

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

“Volunteer registration is now open for Georgia Tech’s 2015 Earth Day Celebration, which will be held on Friday, April 17th at Tech Walkway. This year, there are 13 different volunteer activities to choose from. Volunteers can assist Captain Planet, give out organic popcorn, distribute Earth Day T-shirts, help out at the Clothing Swap, and much more! The minimum time commitment is just one hour and all volunteers will receive an Earth Day T-shirt. For more information or to sign up go to <http://www.earthday.gatech.edu/volunteers.html>.”

Contact Maria Linderoth, Georgia Tech Earth Day Volunteer Coordinator at [maria.linderoth@facilities.gatech.edu](mailto:maria.linderoth@facilities.gatech.edu).

“The 7th Annual Greek Housing Conference, to be held on May 9 at Georgia Tech is designed with fraternity and sorority volunteers in mind. The Laurus Groups hosts the one-stop one-day conference, highlighting key aspects of fraternity and sorority house management and alumni involvement. We have provided a broad range of speakers who have hands-on relevant experience in their respective fields, giving you the opportunity to ask questions from industry experts and gather useful and practical information.”

Register: [www.greekhousingconf.com](http://www.greekhousingconf.com)

Boarder Interest form:

<http://goo.gl/forms/Xy12NQVqil>

People who are interested in housing:

<http://goo.gl/nIGsg3>

## EXTERNAL CONTACTS

Do you have the contact information for an external service provider that could help other groups address projects in their facilities (plumbers, general contractors, etc.).

Submit them via this database:

<http://goo.gl/2tbZCi>

Need Contact Information from the database? Email [Kylie@gatech.edu](mailto:Kylie@gatech.edu)

## DIRECTIONS TO UPDATE YOUR CHAPTER’S REDBOOK:

Everyone on campus is responsible for emergency preparedness, safety and security. The Redbook is an integral part of preparing for, and responding to an emergency in your building. In the Greek Sector, House Managers take on this responsibility.

Much of this template has been completed using the Institute Emergency Action Plan. Your Redbook must be updated at least annually, but is not



a time consuming project. The Redbook focuses on evacuation procedures, safe shelter locations (for severe weather) and educating/training your building occupants.

The Redbook Portal is online at [redbook.gatech.edu](http://redbook.gatech.edu). You should log in with your Georgia Tech account. To get started, the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator should be the House Manager and the Alternate Emergency Preparedness Coordinator should be the President.

The goal for Redbooks is to keep you safe, so we will review how to complete these files together at the GNA Meeting in April. Note that some sections (3.10, 3.11, 3.12) do not apply to Greek housing and can be left blank.

Again, please plan to attend the meeting in April for assistance. Our contact for Redbooks at the Institute is Frank Stanley ([frank.stanley@ep.gatech.edu](mailto:frank.stanley@ep.gatech.edu)).

## DON'T FORGET...

- Coordinate Tech Beautification Day Activities for your chapter (March 28).
- Schedule your follow-up Fire Inspection for next 30 days (Email [Renee.Lee@ehs.gatech.edu](mailto:Renee.Lee@ehs.gatech.edu)).
- Review and edit chapter’s Redbook Emergency Plan on file with Georgia Tech (March).
- Attend the GNA Meeting on April 6 at 6pm in Smithgall Student Services (Flag Building) Room 117.
- Transition with new or Summer House Manager (April).



## GNA VIOLATIONS THIS YEAR

TRASH | DUMPSTERS | LAWNS

Since June 2014, there have been 57 total GNA Violations (YTD: 131)

Trash Violations: 33; Over half are on Friday mornings (YTD: 71)

Dumpster Violations: 21; Recent trend on Monday mornings (YTD: 60)

Lawn Violations: 3 in March; Time to cut your grass again!

## HOUSE MANAGER SPOTLIGHT: NICK SULIMIRSKI, ΘΞ

### What is the toughest part of being house manager?

Easily the hardest part of my job is not getting to frustrated with my brothers. I have to continually remember that these are not just tenants in a house, they are my closest friends. Most of the time all I have to do is ask people for more help and they always support me.

### What big project are you working on this year?

We are really working on fundraising for a new house, so not too many big project. However I would love to get either keypad/buzzcard access on all of our doors.

### How do you motivate members to do chores? What system works best in your house?

We do have a fines system, and that is the main source of motivation. However this semester I worked with another brother to make an automatic chore email system that sends out a reminder email during the day that they have a chore to be done. This system is working well, but no matter what you do people still will forget to do their chores.

### How do you teach your members

### about how to use the dumpster?

We honestly haven't had a huge problem with the dumpster. Our cook always breaks down her cardboard boxes which keeps things tidy. For things that need to



go to the Wreck Lot I always let members destroy whatever they are taking as long as they take it. Guys love breaking stuff, so when you give them the opportunity they take advantage of it.

### Theta Xi recently put in Turf. How much was it, and why did you decide to install it?

Our front yard actually used to be a parking lot up until the early 2000's, because of this the soil for our front yard was absolutely terrible for growing anything. We bought brand new sod

every year to have a lawn, and we weren't allowed to use our lawn at all for months at a time. Every year it eventually just turned to dirt.

We realized that instead of paying close to \$2000 a year to buy sod and take care of our lawn that we barely ever got to use, we could install a more durable and permanent solution. Our lawn is about 2,500 sq.ft and we installed the turf ourselves. We paid a few brothers to do it and it took about 300 hours to complete.

Overall it was about a \$12,000 investment, and the turf has an 8 year warranty. In the long run it will be cheaper, and we can have as many parties in the rain as we want without ruining it.

### What is the cost to maintain and upkeep the turf?

\$0, we just rake the leaves and "fluff" it up every once in awhile. The hardest part is just keeping coals from fire away from it, because have started to see some small sections that have been melted.

### What is the biggest piece of advice for other house managers?

Remember that the people you live with are your friends.

*Nick is a 4th Year Mechanical Engineering major from Buford, GA .*