

Campus Safety:

Department of Public Safety:

The Department of Public Safety works to support the mission of the University of the Ozarks by working in partnership with Ozarks community members and the Clarksville Police Department to ensure the Ozarks campus is a safe and pleasant place to learn, live, work and transact business. Our goal is to protect and serve the campus community and its guests with respect and secure university property and facilities. Public Safety Officers and security professionals patrol the campus 24-hours a day, 365 days a year. Emergency blue light phones are placed throughout the campus and near off campus resident clusters. The campus is monitored by a 24-hour video surveillance in select areas open to the public.

Public Safety Officer

The University of the Ozarks has both sworn law enforcement officers and non-sworn public safety professionals. It is the policy of the university to uphold all local, state, and federal laws. Sworn Public Safety officers may enforce all local, state and federal laws as well as uphold all university policies, including violations addressed under the Student Code of Conduct. Non-sworn public safety professionals can enforce campus policy including parking violations.

Officers are available to provide safe transportation to and from campus facilities and residence halls anytime a community member feels unsafe. On-duty officers may be contacted by calling (479) 979-2020 to request assistance. In case of a life safety emergency or a crime in progress call **911** immediately.

Emergency Notification System

The University provides student and staff a free emergency notification system through Ozarks Alert.

- Ozarks Alert is a mass notification system which serves as the University's means of official communication in emergency situations such as inclement weather, intruder(s) on campus, initiating campus lockdown, or other relevant community information. Alerts can be communicated by email, text, voice call, Facebook, Twitter, the University website, and push notifications off a single platform. All students are automatically enrolled at the beginning of each semester. Staff members will need to sign up independently. Students who do not have text messaging can contact the Public Safety Office for alternate notification methods.
- To sign into the emergency notification system please visit: www.ozarks.edu/safety
- Users can opt out of emails by clicking the link contained in the bottom of each email.
- Users can opt out of SMS messages by replying 'Stop' to any message they get.

911 Shield is a free application associated with Ozarks Alert that provides additional weather and security features. These features include friend watch, indoor positioning systems, and ireports. The link to this application can be found at www.ozarks.edu/safety.

Campus Evacuation Procedures: In case of a campus wide crisis leading to total evacuation, community members will be directed to a designated location. No one should leave the evacuation area until an all clear has been given by a University Official.

Campus "Lockdown" Procedures: In case of a campus wide lockdown, go to the nearest building, a lockable room or office and direct others to follow. Stay away from windows and remain in the room until authorities give the "all clear" or they escort you from the location.

Active Shooter Procedures: Shelter in Place (SIP), stay inside a building to avoid external hazards. When Shelter in Place is warranted, community members will be advised by police, fire, or University officials via the emergency notification system.

Shelter in Place for an active shooter situation:

- Stay where you are or go into the nearest room with a door.
- Secure the immediate area. Whether a classroom, residence hall room, office, or restroom.
- If able, lock or barricade the door. Block the door using whatever is available: desks, tables, file cabinets, other furniture, books, etc.
- After securing the door, stay behind solid objects away from the door as much as possible.
- If an assailant enters your room and leaves, lock or barricade the door behind him/her.
- If safe to do so, allow others to seek refuge with you.
- Take appropriate steps to reduce your vulnerability:
- Close blinds or curtains.
- Close and block windows.
- Turn off radios and computers.
- Silence cell phones.
- Place signs in exterior windows to identify your location and the location of injured persons.
- Keep people calm and quiet.
- After securing the room, people should be positioned out of sight and behind items that might offer additional protection – walls, desks, file cabinets, bookshelves, etc.
- Do not sound fire alarms. This may cause others to flee the buildings and put them at risk.
- Wait for the "all-clear" message from authorities.

If you find yourself in an open area, immediately seek protection:

- Put something between you and the assailant.
- Consider trying to escape, if the assailant's position is known and there appears to be a safe escape route. Escape routes may include the surrounding neighborhood.
- If in doubt, find the safest area available and secure it the best way possible.

All emergency situations should be reported to the campus public safety office after notifying 911, by dialing [479-979-2020](tel:479-979-2020).

Missing Student Notification Procedures:

When a student electronically registers for school the option to provide confidential contact information for a person to be notified in the event the student is officially reported as missing is provided. If Public Safety officials determine a student may be missing or endangered, the individual identified by the student may be contacted if the student is over 18 years old, or a parent or guardian if under 18 years of age.

Severe Weather Alert

In the event of a tornado warning, Clarksville storm sirens will sound. Students should seek the nearest shelter, and/or move to the basement or room free from windows. Clarksville radio stations KLYR (92.7 FM) or KXIO (106.9 FM) will give up-to-date weather information, as well as Channel 5 TV. Please note, weekly siren testing is conducted each Wednesday at noon. Students and staff should also receive an Ozarks Alert through 911 Shield in case of a Tornado warning.

In the event the campus is closed, the campus community will be notified by the emergency notification system, which will include text message, email and website information. Individuals with questions regarding closing information and campus events can contact Public Safety at 479-979-2020.

Parking Enforcement

Parking enforcement is the responsibility of the University of the Ozarks Public Safety Department. Parking regulations and enforcement are in effect 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Parking rules have been established to ensure students, staff, and community members have equitable access to the University. All campus community members and guests are expected to willingly comply with those rules to minimize the stress to the campus as a whole. Citations are a tool to motivate those who intentionally or unintentionally disregard the rules to the detriment of the rest of the community.

The University of the Ozarks assumes no responsibility or liability for fire, theft, damage to or loss of any vehicle or any article left therein.

Parking Regulations

Parking signs have been kept to a minimum to preserve the beauty of our campus. Consequently, signs primarily designate where visitors are allowed to park and where there is accessible parking, rather than where an individual may park. Parking Lot Identification Signs have been placed around campus on all parking areas. Please take note of your parking lot location; therefore, if an emergency arises you can better communicate your location to the Public Safety Department for assistance.

Permits & Placement

All vehicles parked on campus that are owned or used by any student, faculty/staff or overnight visitor must have a valid parking permit. Parking permits may be obtained through the Public Safety Office.

The parking permit tags must be applied to the rear view mirrors facing out toward the windshield so that they are visible from the outside. The parking permit may be placed on the dashboard if it cannot be attached to the rear view mirror.

Bicycle Permits

Bicycles parked on campus require permits. Bicycle permits must be attached to the frame of the bicycle near its intersection with the handle bars. If you have questions about placement of a parking permit call the University of the Ozarks Public Safety Department at (479)979-2020.

Lost, stolen or damaged permits

If a vehicle is sold or involved in an accident that renders it inoperable, the old permit must be removed and returned to the Public Safety Department to receive a replacement or to update the existing one. Lost or stolen permits must be reported to Public Safety immediately. Failure to do so may result in the owner's vehicle being towed from campus, a fine and/or a referral to the Office of Student Affairs.

Altered permits

Altering a parking decal is a violation of the University's parking policy and student code of conduct. This may result in the vehicle being towed and the owner being fined and/or referred to the Office of Student Affairs. Altered permits will be confiscated and the vehicle's owner could lose their parking privileges for the remainder of the academic year.

****Prohibited parking areas****

Prohibited parking includes blocking driveways, walkways, building exits, or parking in fire lanes, or on grass. In such cases, the vehicle may be towed with or without notice and stored at the owner's expense. Vehicles that are not parked in appropriately designated spaces or that are parked in visitor, campus perks, or accessible parking spaces may receive a parking ticket or towed at the owners expense.

Loading and unloading vehicles

Vehicles **may** be parked temporarily in driveways for up to 10 minutes for loading or unloading, provided that the emergency flashers are activated, and the driver is readily available to move the vehicle. Vehicles parked for more than 10 minutes may be ticketed and/or towed without warning or notice.

Parking during vacations/ excessive period of time

Students, staff, or Faculty who wish to leave their vehicle on campus over any break or period of leave must contact the Public Safety Office to make appropriate arrangements. Vehicles left or abandoned for an excessive period of time in any parking lots on campus may be ticketed and/or towed without warning or notice.

Reminder: The University of the Ozarks assumes no responsibility or liability for fire, theft, damage to or loss of any vehicle or any article left therein.

Specific violations are fined as follows:

- 01 No permit/decal \$50.00
- 02 Double Parking/Blocking \$50.00
- 04 Parking in a "No Parking" Area \$50.00
- 05 Parking in a Visitors Parking Space \$50.00
- 06 Parking on the Grass/Sidewalk/Driveway \$50.00
- 07 Unpermitted Parking in ADA Accessible Parking Space \$100.00
- 08 Parking in a Fire Zone \$100.00

Appeals

Appeals may be submitted to the Public Safety Department. Forms for this purpose are available in the Public Safety Office, located in the lower level of the Seay Student Center. To be considered, an appeal must be filed within 14 days of date on citation. Findings will be returned by e-mail within 7 business days.

Students: Upon the expiration of the appeal period, unpaid student vehicle citations that have been forwarded to the Office of Administrative Services are charged to the student's campus account and added to the student's next billing statement.

Employees: Upon the expiration of the appeal period, unpaid employee vehicle citations are forwarded to the Office of Administrative Services and the employee may be billed for the citation.

If a community member has any questions please contact the Public Safety Department via email or by calling (479)979-2020.

Crime Statistics Reporting

Under the federal law entitled "Students' Right to Know and Campus Security Act," statistics regarding certain crimes reported to campus authorities must be published for the past three calendar years. A copy of the crime statistics is available in the Office of Public Safety and available for download from the Ozarks Public Safety website.

The Federal Student Right-to-Know and Campus Security Act requires all institutions participating in Federal Student Aid Programs to disclose certain information to you and the campus community, including basic institution information, graduation rates, athletic program information, campus security policies and campus crime statistics.