

# Personal Safety:

## Your Responsibility & Your Control

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You cannot control someone else's behavior. **You can control your behavior and your environment.**

You are in charge of your own personal safety, and there are many things that you can do to prevent a scary situation from happening to you. In this brochure you'll find lots of tips and strategies to increase your own awareness of your personal safety.

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### Important Telephone Numbers

#### JMU Police

Emergency: 540-568-6911  
Non-Emergency: 540-568-6912  
Safety Escorts: 540-568-6913

#### Harrisonburg Police

540-434-4436

#### Rockingham Co. Sheriff

540-564-3800

#### Off-Campus Emergencies

911

#### JMU SafeRides

540-568-7433

#### C.A.R.E.

540-568-6411



James Madison University

Department of Police &  
Public Safety



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# Staying Safe

Personal Safety Tips

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## Hosting a Safe Party

Register your party with the Harrisonburg Police Department – 540-434-4436. Benefit – instead of sending an officer for the 1<sup>st</sup> noise complaint, HPD will call the host to correct the problem.

Have a guest list – know who is in your home.

If uninvited guests won't leave, call the police.

Have a sober host on the premises at all times.

Keep it small. Be aware of occupancy limits. Beware of overcrowding wooden decks.

Limit the alcohol consumption of guests.

Provide non-alcoholic beverages and food.

Lock doors to private areas (i.e. bedrooms) and hide valuables.

Report suspicious persons or activity immediately to the police. **Be a witness, don't be a hero.**

Be considerate of others and respectful of property.

## Attending an Off-Campus Party

Go with friends. Look out for each other.

Know the people whose party you are attending.

If you choose to drink, drink responsible. Do not drink to excess.

Know where your drink comes from.

Do not leave your drink unattended.

Have a safe way to get home – city bus service, local taxi or JMU SafeRides.

Trust your instincts. If you feel uncomfortable, leave the area.

Report suspicious persons and activity to police.

Carry only the ID and money you'll need for the night.

**Be a witness, don't be a hero.**

## More Safety Tips

### Use Peep Holes:

All of the residence halls and most apartment complexes have peepholes in the doors...use them!

### Use Common Sense:

Trust your instincts. Listen to that gut feeling.

### Use Well Lit and Well Traveled Areas:

Avoid dark and deserted areas, i.e. railroad tracks, shortcuts.

### Report All Crimes:

When reporting a crime or suspicious activity, give the dispatcher all the information you have. If it is happening at the time of your call, stay on the line until the officer arrives.

