



# North Country Journal

Bemidji State University's Department of Residential Life

Fall 2011



## Important Dates:

- *FRIDAY, AUGUST 19*  
*FYRE Students Move In*  
*Beginning at 9:00 am*
- *FRIDAY, AUGUST 19*  
*All Halls Open at 9:00 am*
- *FRIDAY, AUGUST 19*  
*First Meal Served - Supper*
- *MONDAY, AUGUST 22*  
*All Classes Begin*

## What's Inside?

- *Roommate 101* 2
- *Dining Memberships* 3
- *BED LOFT INFO!!* 3
- *Mission, Goals & Values* 4
- *Jobs, Jobs, Jobs* 5
- *Room Assignment & Roommate Info* 5

**Welcome** returning students to the 2011-2012 academic year and a special welcome to all new freshmen and transfer students from all of us in the Department of Residential Life! We are excited about the coming year and providing our residents with a fun and rewarding experience. There is no experience quite like living in the residence halls. In recent years a number of reality shows have attempted to create and show similar experiences. It is our hope that while living on campus you will join us in building a welcoming, open, tolerant, accepting, respectful, trusting, diverse, and united community focused on a lifestyle of learning. We also respect you as an individual with social, physical, emotional, spiritual, and intellectual needs.

In an effort to build community while respecting the individual student, the Department of Residential Life has a trained staff of student development professionals and peer student paraprofessionals committed to creating a caring environment that encourages academic success, individual respect, personal growth, and a sense of responsibility toward our community and global society. The Department of Residential Life is here to serve the needs of residents in the halls at Bemidji State University. If you have any questions or concerns, please ask your resident assistant (RA) or residence hall director (RHD), or stop by or contact us in our central office in Walnut Hall.

Phone:

(218) 755-3750 or (888) 350-HALL

Email:

[reslife@bemidjistate.edu](mailto:reslife@bemidjistate.edu)

Website:

[www.bemidjistate.edu/students/reslife/](http://www.bemidjistate.edu/students/reslife/)



## Roommate 101...

One of the greatest benefits of living in a residence hall is the living-learning experience. Learning about others' values, lifestyles, interests, habits, hobbies, moods, and needs can be one of the most rewarding opportunities you will have. Most roommate experiences have the potential to be rewarding, but it takes work by all parties to keep a roommate relationship growing and positive. Roommates may be very similar or very different, and it may take some work to develop that relationship.

It is important (and sometimes difficult) not to judge a future roommate prior to meeting them in person. It is very easy to do so, particularly in the current age of social networking sites, like Facebook and MySpace, where individuals paint a picture for all to see. The problem is, until you actually meet someone in person, you will not genuinely know who she or he is. There are far more cases of what appear to be problematic roommate pairings that end up resulting in lifelong friendships.

Living successfully with a roommate requires flexibility and the willingness to communicate in an honest, yet tactful manner. Consideration, communication, and compromise are key factors. It may be difficult to talk about differences when you and your roommate are first getting to know each other. To live together you will need to realize and resolve your personal differences early on in the relationship. The first step is to discuss the things each of you value, such as your background and lifestyles. Sharing some of your background information is an easy way to begin to get to know your roommate. It is a very wise idea for you to sit down with your roommate in the first few days to discuss the types of situations that can cause most roommate problems and come to an arrangement that is mutually acceptable.

Again, always strive to keep the lines of communication open between you and your roommate. Talk about your situation. If a problem persists even after discussion has taken place, your RA may be helpful in working out an acceptable solution. Remember, mutual respect, understanding, tolerance, and acceptance are ingredients of any healthy relationship!

### *Understanding Each Other*

To get along well with your roommate, it is important to understand how he or she "feels" in certain situations. If you can share your feelings and reactions in some of the following situations, you will be ahead of the game in understanding and empathizing with each other during the ups and downs of college life. Be sure to take some time to talk over:

- \* The way you react when you're working under pressure...
- \* When you're depressed you act like...
- \* When you'd rather be alone, you...
- \* The way you react to most people when you meet them is...
- \* Something that will cheer you up when you're down is...
- \* You usually let people know that you're angry by...
- \* Some things that make you tense are...
- \* You become easily annoyed when...



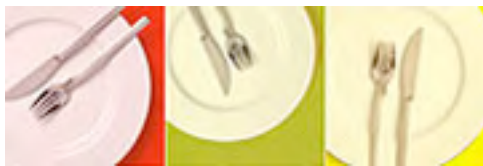
Please understand that one of the most rewarding parts of college is learning about and from others. Differences and diversity are a wonderful part of the experience. Learning about people is significant in preparing you for your future in our global society! Please feel free to contact the Residential Life staff to assist you with any roommate issues you may encounter upon your arrival to campus. We are here to help!

## *BSU's FLEXIBLE DINING MEMBERSHIPS*

Memberships come in many convenient shapes and sizes. Your student ID card electronically identifies you as a dining plan member. By combining a "Semester Meal Allowance" with "Beaver Bucks," you can customize a plan that's right for you.

### **SEMESTER MEAL ALLOWANCE**

- Enjoy all-you-care-to-eat dining for breakfast, lunch, and dinner in Northwoods Dining Center
- Receive 100 or 200 guaranteed meals per semester; each time you eat in Northwoods, one meal is subtracted from your semester's meal allowance



### **BEAVER BUCKS**

- Pay as you go – works like a bank debit card
- Purchases are subtracted from the balance in your account
- Add more money at any time during the year
- Receive a up to 25% discount on meals in Northwoods Dining Center and sales tax exempt when using Beaver Bucks
- Beaver Bucks can be used at all BSU Dining Services locations!

## **CHOOSE YOUR PLAN: THREE GREAT PLANS – ONE GREAT PRICE (\$1240 per semester)**

### **ANY 100**

- 100 meals per semester
- Average of 6 meals per week
- 5 meals can be used for guests
- \$650 in Beaver Bucks

### **ANY 200**

- 200 meals per semester
- Averages 12 meals per week
- 10 meals can be used for guests
- \$320 in Beaver Bucks

### **BEAVER BUCKS \$1240**

- \$1240 in Beaver Bucks
- Ultimate flexibility & convenience

**Beaver Bucks \$860 (for upperclass students with 31 or more credits only)**

\*\* If you desire to change your meal plan, please go to our website and follow the links to [www.bemidjistate.edu/students/reslife/](http://www.bemidjistate.edu/students/reslife/) and click on the "Contract" tab, scroll down and select "Room Assignment Information." You can change your meal plan there (up to three weeks into the semester).

## ***BEDLOFTS, REFRIGERATORS AND MORE***

BSU has contracted with Beloft.com to provide a full service rental/purchase program for bed loft kits, refrigerators, futons, and more. Residents must order these products online at [bedloft.com](http://bedloft.com). There is a specific page for Bemidji State University. If you order loft kits and other products by August 3rd, you will get in-room delivery of your products so they are in your room when you arrive!

For more information on the services provided by Bedloft.com go to:



## ***OUR MISSION***

The Department of Residential Life at Bemidji State University is committed to fostering safe, caring environments that encourage academic success, respect, personal growth, and a sense of responsibility toward our community and global society.

## ***OUR VALUES***

- *Altruism* - unselfish concern for the welfare of others.
- *Trust* - in ourselves and others.
- *Inclusiveness* - recognizing, appreciating, and celebrating differences and similarities.
- *Honesty* - behaving in accord with stated and implied values and principles.
- *Empathy* - understanding others' feelings or difficulties.
- *Opportunity* - providing for growth for self and others through involvement.
- *Excellence* - always striving toward a further goal, growing, never complacent.
- *Fairness* - behavior and attitudes that reflect fair play and openness.
- *Respect* - for oneself and the esteem and value of others, environment, and community.
- *Love* - dedicate self for the purpose of enhancing one's own or another's good.

## ***OUR GOALS***

### *Community*

- Partner with students and staff members to develop community expectations that encourage civility, respect for others and property, and individual rights and responsibilities.
- Provide a dining service that offers quality and value.
- Support our students and the University mission by collaboratively working with other offices on campus.

### *Academic Success*

- Provide environments conducive to student learning and fostering student success.
- Develop learning opportunities that complement the academic mission of the University.
- Provide current technologies, programs, and facilities that support academic success.

### *Student Growth*

- Provide resources and support for successful transition to and from the collegiate experience.
- Support and challenge students to foster autonomy and personal growth.
- Utilize policies, procedures, and activities that lead to self-exploration and enhance respect for oneself and others.
- Encourage student awareness, understanding, and appreciation of the diversity of individual backgrounds, beliefs, and ideas.
- Encourage participation in community service and cultural awareness activities to enhance understanding of one's role in a larger society and the need to contribute positively to it.

### *Facilities*

- Share responsibility with our residents for maintaining safe, clean, and comfortable facilities.
- Assess facilities and programs on a continuous basis in order to plan for improvement and growth.
- Practice fiscal responsibility in managing facilities and resources.

### *Staff*

- Serve as caring and supportive models of ethical and professional behavior.
- Serve as advocates for residents with their concerns and act as a resource.
- Empower staff through interactive training, personal supervision, and leadership development.
- Provide staff with strategies for developing community & meeting the needs of students.
- Follow a comprehensive staff selection process that is intentional and fair and that results in the hiring of outstanding staff.



*“Mission, goal, and value statements are developed as a way to communicate to members of the community what an institution feels is important. Please take the time to read the Mission, Values, and Goals statement of the Department of Residential Life.”*

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reslife@bemidjistate.edu

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## JOBS, JOBS, JOBS!

The Department of Residential Life employs the largest number of students on campus. We have a number of campus work-study positions available. To be eligible for some of these positions, you must have work-study funds as part of your financial aid package. There are limited regular payroll positions available in some areas.

**Residential Life Receptionists** - The Department of Residential Life needs student receptionists to answer telephones, file, type, and perform office tasks. Contact the Department of Residential Life for further information.

**Residence Hall Desk Receptionists** - Residence hall desk receptionists are needed in each residence hall. Duties include performing administrative tasks, opening and closing the residence hall at break periods, working in the game rooms, checking out equipment, distributing mail and packages, etc. For further information, contact your residence hall desk.

**Student Janitors** - Students are needed to perform janitorial services and recycling collection throughout the BSU campus. To apply, contact Randy Tisdell, Residential Life, Walnut Hall.

**BSU Dining Services** - Students are needed to perform a variety of food service related functions in the Northwoods Dining Center, Upper Deck restaurant, convenience stores, and the Lakeside Food Court. These are regular payroll positions. To apply, contact BSU Dining Services, Walnut Hall.

**BSU Department of Public Safety** - Students are needed to perform campus security and safety functions. To apply, contact the Department of Public Safety, Walnut Hall.

If you are interested in the above work-study positions, please complete an employment application and submit it along with a copy of your Fall Semester class schedule to the office listed.

For additional information regarding campus employment, consult the job posting bulletin board located on the first floor of Deputy Hall, or check online at:

[www.bemidjistate.edu/offices/human\\_resources/employment/seekingemployment.html](http://www.bemidjistate.edu/offices/human_resources/employment/seekingemployment.html)

## ROOM & ROOMMATE INFO!

You can access information regarding your room assignment and roommate online!

To access your room assignment and roommate information, go to BSU E-services at:

<https://webproc.mnscu.edu/eservices/login.html?campusid=070>

Sign in. Click "Housing and Dining" on the left. Select "View." Your room assignment information will also include your selected meal plan, room type, and campus mailing address. Roommate information will include name, address, phone and email. Residents are encouraged to contact their roommates to introduce themselves and discuss what they each plan to bring to BSU. Be aware that all assignments have not yet been made, so check this site later if you are in a double room without any roommate information listed. Residents assigned to suites will not have roommate information listed. Please contact our office if you do not know your suitemate(s).