

## Suggested Cohousing Rules

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### Co-Housing Rules

Based on Those of Tierra Nueva Cohousing, Located in Oceano, CA

As a member of the community, I support these guiding principles for desirable behaviors. Always living up to these guidelines to the best of my ability, I agree to:

- Be conscientious in attending community meetings.
- Take responsibility for communicating my ideas and my feelings to others.
- Contribute time and energy in the form of work parties, chores. Negotiate in advance any reduction in my hours or terms of participation that I may need or want.
- Serve as a contributing member of a committee or work team.  
Be open and conscientious regarding my financial responsibilities.
- Inform the community as early in advance as possible about
  - a guest who will stay for an extended period of time
  - any change in my personal situation that affects the community and/or my ability to contribute to it.
- Promptly inform the appropriate people about any violence or serious violations of these rules that I witness.

### Matters of Respect

I agree to exhibit the following:

- Physical respect
  - I will respect personal boundaries
  - I will touch others appropriately
  - I will refrain from violence
- Emotional respect
  - I will respect others' feelings and emotions
  - I will take responsibility for my own feelings and emotions.

- Verbal respect
  
- I will be honest
- I will use respectful forms of communication with others
- I will hear what others say to me
  
- Territorial respect
  
- I will respect my own and others' right to privacy, solitude, quiet, and security in our private spaces
- I will negotiate the use of community common space
  
- Diversity
  
- I will respect the diversity of age, gender, race, sexual orientation, spiritual practice, and physical and mental capabilities
  
- Material goods
  
- I will care for property, whether owned privately or by the community
  
- Community
  
- I will respect the community and its organizational structure
- I will respect the community decision-making process