

# Hudson/Park Neighborhood Discussion List Guidelines, Policies and Rules

The Hudson/Park Neighborhood Association established its neighborhood discussion list so that members, residents of Hudson/Park, and other people interested in our neighborhood would have a place to discuss our neighborhood's issues.

Please read the following civility guidelines, policies and rules that apply to the Hudson/Park Neighborhood Association (H/PNA) listserv and neighborhood discussion group.

By joining and using this list, you agree that you have read and will follow the rules and guidelines set for these peer discussion groups. You also agree to reserve list discussions for topics consistent with the list's goals.

## *List Etiquette (Netiquette)*

- Don't challenge or attack others. The discussions on the lists are meant to stimulate conversation not to create arguments for the sake of argument.
- Do not "Flame" people by posting derogatory comments, ridiculing them, using excessive sarcasm, belittling others or discussing their posts, opinions or personality in an insulting manner.
- Do not type all in capitals. It is harder to read and is considered "shouting".
- Use caution when discussing products. Information posted on the lists is available for all to see, and comments are subject to libel, slander, and antitrust laws.
- Please keep posts brief and to-the-point.
- Use a descriptive subject line, and if you change topics, change the subject line.
- Posts to a single person, such as "thank you," "I agree," or sharing war stories and lengthy personal anecdotes, should be sent privately off-list.
- Include a signature tag on all messages.
- Send messages such as "thanks for the information" or "me, too" to individuals--not to the entire list. Do this by using your e-mail application's forwarding option and typing in or cutting and pasting in the e-mail address of the individual to whom you want to respond.
- Warn other list subscribers of lengthy messages either in the subject line or at the beginning of the message body with a line that says "Long Message."
- Do not send complaints about other list members to the list.

## *List Rules*

- All defamatory, abusive, profane, threatening, offensive, or illegal materials are strictly prohibited.
- Advertising is expressly forbidden. No commercial use shall be made of this list or its membership.
- Use caution when discussing products, services or businesses. Information posted on the lists is widely distributed, and comments could be subject to libel, slander, and other applicable laws.

- Do not share the email address of other list members, without prior consent.
- Do not use the email address of other list members to construct your own lists.
- Do not share personal content from other members' posts without prior permission from the original poster(s).
- Do not send posts that infringe upon copyright by posting full articles to the list. If there is an article you wish to share, please post no more than 1-2 paragraphs, then link to the article, for other list members to read.
- Sending unsolicited advertisements (SPAM) or information of a commercial nature (selling any product, service, or anything else for a fee) to other subscribers, whether through the lists or privately, will result in your removal from the list.
- Please keep posts on-topic. This discussion is about Hudson/Park issues, and City of Albany issues that affect Hudson/Park. Off-topic posts drive the list's volume too high, which results in our losing list members who cannot handle the high volume – depriving us all of invaluable sources of help.

## List Moderation

**The Hudson/Park neighborhood discussion list is private and moderated. Participation in the list is a privilege and not a right.**

These civility guidelines, and list policies and rules are intended to improve the usefulness of the list for our neighborhood. Therefore, each subscriber is expected to be familiar with these guidelines, policies and rules, and to abide by them.

"Moderation" is a process by which email messages sent to the list must be approved by the discussion group's moderators before being sent to the list. Posts are subject to moderation for adherence to list guidelines, policies and rules, not for point of view.

Moderators will generally return a non compliant post to its author, with a request to re-post in compliance with these rules, so that the post may be forwarded on to the membership. Posts that are sent to the list accidentally, will generally be forwarded to the proper recipient(s).

After a certain number of posts, or weeks, focused on an issue, the Moderators may propose that the topic be closed on the list and moved to the appropriate committee/topic forum on Hudson/Park's bulletin board. If there is no committee and/or topic forum, Hudson/Park may ask the most vigorous proponents of the discussion topic if they would volunteer to keep the issue and possible solutions alive on the bulletin board, with semi-monthly summary reports to the list.

In furtherance of the guidelines, policies and rules set forth above, the Moderators will delete posts that are: purely commercial in nature; political advertisements or “sock puppetry”; indecent, obscene or illegal; designed to stifle individual expression on the list, or to hijack it for purely personal or partisan reasons.

Thank you for being part of Hudson/Park's neighborhood discussion community.