WMU RESIDENCE LIFE
What to Bring/Not Bring List

What’s included in a typical room
✓ Twin extra-long beds and mattresses
✓ Desk (2)
✓ Chair (2)
✓ Dresser (1 large to share or 2 small dressers)
✓ Shared closest space
✓ Wireless and Ethernet internet access
✓ Cable television access
✓ Local phone service
✓ Recycling bin

Things to Bring
You know the basics to bring – clothes, a computer, linens and
towels, school supplies, toiletries, posters and pictures, etc. –
but here are some additional things to think about.

Bathroom & Laundry Essentials
✓ Bath towel
✓ Hangers for clothes
✓ Laundry detergent/stain remover
✓ Laundry bag or basket
✓ Rubber flip flops for showers
✓ Shampoos and soaps
✓ Shower caddy/tote
✓ Toilet paper (for suite bathrooms)
✓ Toothpaste and brush

Food Stuff
✓ Can opener
✓ Coffee cup/mug
✓ Coffee maker (styles like Keurig
 with enclosed heating elements)
✓ Crock pot/rice cooker (if bring,
an auto shut off is required)
✓ Dishes: a few plates, silverware,
cups, storage containers
✓ Dish soap
✓ Filtered water pitcher
✓ Paper towels, napkins
✓ Snacks
✓ Water bottle

Cleaning & Organization
✓ Basic cleaning supplies
  and disinfectant
✓ Closet organizer
✓ Desk organizer
✓ Envelopes and stamps
✓ Footlocker, storage box or trunk
✓ Garbage bags
✓ Office supplies like scissors,
stapler, rubber bands, tape, etc.
✓ Storage boxes or crates
  (stackable!)
✓ Trash can (one is provided
  in suite bathrooms)
✓ Vacuum (or check it out at the
  front desk)

Clothing, Bedding & Accessories
✓ Bathrobe
✓ Comfortable walking shoes
✓ Extra-long twin sheets/blankets
✓ Light-weight fleece or jacket
✓ Mattress pad
✓ Umbrella/rain boots
✓ Winter gear

Personal Items
✓ Banking information
✓ Batteries
✓ Extra copies of personal keys
✓ Hand sanitizer
✓ Medicine (prescription and
 over-the-counter meds)
✓ Photo ID or passport
✓ Small first aid kit
✓ Thermometer
✓ Sunscreen and sunglasses
✓ Tissues
✓ Toiletries
✓ Vital documents – insurance
  cards, Social Security card
  (original or copies)

Room Comforts
✓ Cable cord/coax cable
✓ Carpet or rug
✓ Couch or futon
✓ Desk and floor lamps
  (non-halogen models)
✓ Ethernet cord
  (wireless connection also
  available in student rooms)
✓ Fan
✓ Microwave
✓ Personal computer and
  accessories
✓ Small refrigerator
✓ Sticky putty or 3M Command
  strips and hooks
✓ Surge protectors, power strips
  and extension cords (UL rated)
✓ TV and entertainment electronics
  (see wmich.edu/it/cable for a
  note about non-compatible TVs)

Tip: Bring one or two
  things for any type of
  weather, but don’t bring
  a four-season wardrobe. Rotate
  things out as seasons change.

What NOT to bring

✓ Some TVs and wireless devices do
  not work on Western’s wireless system,
such as wireless printers or Google
  Home. See the full list at wmich.edu/it/
cable and wmich.edu/helpdesk/internet
gameconsole#incompatible.

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Items which can be rented or
  purchased through a WMU vendor.
See wmich.edu/housing/vendors.
**Tips about LIVING GREEN on campus**

**Practice**

- Flip the switch!
  - Turn off your lights when you leave the room
  - Unplug electronics or turn off your surge protector when not in use; also consider “Smart” surge protectors which do it for you.
- Get clean in a jiffy! WMU showers use 2.5 gallons of water/minute, so short showers conserve water.
- Turn off the faucet when brushing your teeth or shaving
- Wash only full loads of laundry. To really be green, air-dry your clothes.
- Use your recycle bin!
- Use a water filter pitcher – you could spend over $200 a year on bottled water!
- Use a BPA-free reusable water bottle rather than plastic bottles.
- Use microwavable plates, bowls and mugs instead of disposable items (saves money too!)
- Ride a bike (with helmet) or take the bus on and around campus. Students ride the Kalamazoo bus for free with your Bronco Card.
- Buy Energy-Star appliances which use 10-50% less energy
- Energy-Star Certified Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs (CFL) which use 75% less energy and last 10 times longer

**How to Pack Green**

- Use family suitcases that can go back home
- If you’re bringing storage crates, pack them with things for the move
- Need boxes? Ask at local stores vs. going out and buying them
- Use towels and blankets to wrap about breakable items – it’s better to wash them afterward vs. buying bubble wrap that takes a while to decompose
- Avoid using tape – it’s hard to decompose

**Recycling during Move-In**

Large dumpsters are outside each hall to recycle cardboard and Styrofoam during move-in. Please break down your boxes prior to adding them to the dumpster.

For a complete list of what WMU recycles, visit [wmich.edu/node/50124/](http://wmich.edu/node/50124/)

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**Things to Leave at Home**

**Appliances & Electronics**

- Air conditioners
- Air fryers
- Anything with an exposed heating element
- Coffee pots with pot warmers or no auto shut off feature
- Electric woks/cookware
- Grills or griddles
- Halogen lamps
- Hover boards
- Instant pots
- Irons with no auto shut off
- Lava lamps
- Space heaters
- “Spider” lamps (multi-bulb)
- Subwoofer speakers
- Toasters/toaster ovens
- Wireless routers or printers

**Personal Items**

- Candles, candle warmers, Sentsy, or incense
- Dry erase boards for outside of your door
- Hookas, bongs or marijuana pipes
- Mattress from home
- Pets other than fish
- Self-built lofts
- Tape, nails or other products that will damage paint or walls
- Tobacco, tobacco-related products, e-cigs, etc. (WMU is tobacco free)
- Weapons of any kind (e.g. paint guns, air/C02 guns, stun guns, martial arts weapons, knives, etc.)

[wmich.edu/housing/new-students/bring-list](http://wmich.edu/housing/new-students/bring-list)