



Thanksgiving is Turkey Day: November 22

It's about that time of year again... yes, it's Turkey Time! However, since some of you have never cooked in Edgerton before (hooray for Lean Cuisine!), here's a quick background on what you might need to know

What is Thanksgiving? In the U.S., Thanksgiving is traditionally a family event where certain kinds of food are served. Turkey is the featured item; stuffing, mashed potatoes with gravy, sweet potatoes, cranberry sauce, corn, turnips, yams and pumpkin pie are also commonly associated with Thanksgiving dinner.

When was the first Thanksgiving? The early settlers of Plymouth Colony in Massachusetts (Pilgrims) were particularly grateful to Squanto and Samoset, the Native Americans who taught them how to catch eel, grow corn, and who served as their interpreters. Due largely to their help, in 1621 the Pilgrims had a successful harvest. Since plentiful bounty of food equals large party, the Pilgrims held a celebration to feast and praise God. The Governor of Plymouth invited Grand Sachem Massasoit and the Wampanoag people to join them in the feast. The settlers fed and entertained the Indians for three days, at which point some of these natives went into the forest, killed 5 deer, and gave it to the Governor as a gift.

What special things happen this day? Every year on Thanksgiving is the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, and two football games: the Dallas Cowboys and Detroit Lions. Note, liquor and grocery stores are closed... so buy food ahead of time!

Where can I find good recipes? Good luck on that one! Ask your grandma, I guess!

What parties do I have to register? In common areas, all parties with alcohol should be registered. In your room, any party with 50+ people should be registered. Registration is painless and easy, and allows you to reserve common areas, to give a guest list to the front desk, and to provide some insurance against being shut down.

What's a guest list? Normally you can give a guest list to the Front Desk, so you don't have to worry about letting people in the building. However, the Front Desk may be closed on Thanksgiving. Instead, make a non-cooking friend man your cell phone, then ask them to walk to the front and let people in.

How do I reserve common areas (including the large lounge kitchen)? Do so at the Front Desk. I would recommend doing this early, as spaces fill quickly.

Where can I get ice? The Large Lounge kitchen has a small icemaker. For large quantities, you can buy ice at the supermarket.

Where can I get extra tables? Ask your friends and neighbors. Otherwise, you can temporarily relocate the tables in the laundry room. Just put them back!

How do I avoid setting off the fire alarm? Don't burn the food! If you do (or steam/oil manages to set the alarm off), open the courtyard/exterior windows. Using a fan, blow the air from the smoke detector to the window. DO NOT open the main hallway, as this will set off the Building Fire Alarm.

Have a great Thanksgiving!

Questions? Comments?

Have a question or concern about living in Edgerton? Speak up – I’m sure several other people have the same question! To help you, here is brief contact list, including items you might contact them about.

Facilities (http://web.mit.edu/sapweb/PS1/facilities_home.shtml)

- Building Repair (click on “Building Repair Form”

Housemasters (David & Pam Mindell, eh-housemasters@mit.edu)

House Manager (Trudy Morris, rainbow@mit.edu)

- Resource activities
- Party, roommate, smoke, or other complaints (Note you can make an anonymous phone call to the police if you need immediate action)
- Problems exterior to Edgerton (eg noise, scary people, etc)
- Parking
- Building maintenance/safety/upkeep/other concerns

House Association (Jean-Paul L’Huillier Bowles, eh-officers@mit.edu)

- Event recommendations/announcements/budgets
- Reserving common areas (Large Lounge, Small Lounge, Courtyard)
- Common room equipment (TV, pool table, ping pong table, air hockey table)
- Gym equipment
- Laundry room/card reader
- Joining Edgerton IM sports teams

Student Advisory Board (Biswajit Bose, eh-sab@mit.edu)

- Bike Purge (October)
- Elections & House Survey (February)
- In-House Transfer Lottery
- Fire Marshals

Front Desk Captain (slk@mit.edu)

- Special deliveries or other Front Desk concerns
- Getting a job at the Front Desk

Housing (silugo@mit.edu)

- Intra-Dorm Transfer Lottery (Winter)
- Other Housing Questions

Be on the Lookout for Upcoming Events and Activities...

November 27: Iron Chef

December 6: Advent Festival of Lessons and Carols

December 12: Late Night Breakfast

Biweekly: Biweekly Socials

House Survey to get ideas of what to do with House Tax money