

Checklist for Buying a Sunward Cohousing Home

Sunward is foremost a membership community supported by Michigan condominium laws. Membership comes with opportunities and responsibilities as outlined in our documents.

Read/watch Sunward documents:

1. Sunward's [Vision and Values](#) describes what Sunward aspires to be (Vision), and identifies the values we will use to manifest our vision.
2. The [Master Deed](#) is the legal document required by the State of Michigan which describes the physical elements of Sunward (land and buildings), and who is responsible for maintaining those common elements, along with more mundane information such as insurance requirements.
3. The [Bylaws](#) are a subset of the master deed and describes how we operate, meet, and make decisions together.
4. The [Book of Agreements](#) is a companion document referenced by the master deed and carries the same legal weight as the master deed. Making changes to the master deed is a complicated and time consuming legal process, whereas modifying our Book of Agreements is a straight-forward and relatively quick process. Virtually all of our community agreements are recorded in the Book of Agreements.
5. [Current committee membership list](#): Sunward has a flat organizational structure and therefore there is no single organizing group.
6. Visit www.sunward.org (public site)
 - a. [Vision and Values video](#)
 - b. Take a [virtual tour](#) of cohousing and hear cohousing residents talk about living in community

Talk & Visit (Coordinate with Membership Committee or Your Seller/Landlord):

1. Attend a Sunday tour (every Sunday at 2 PM; meet at Touchstone Cohousing at 560 Little Lake Drive, Ann Arbor)
2. Attend at least one community meeting
3. Attend at least one social function (such as a common house meal)
4. Membership will set up a meeting with several long-standing members for questions

Prior to Signing Your Sales Contract:

Do your homework and check us out before signing documents and be sure you understand cohousing living.