



Lockwood Communities Addresses Growing Importance of Pet-Friendly Apartments in Multifamily Housing

July 20, 2026

SOUTHFIELD, MI - July 20, 2026 -

Multifamily housing professionals continue to observe that pet ownership influences how many renters evaluate apartment communities, with pet-friendly apartments emerging as a significant consideration in residential decision-making. As more households regard pets as integral members of the family, apartment communities across the sector are adapting to evolving expectations that place accommodations for animals alongside convenience, comfort, and community features.

This development reflects broader shifts in renter preferences within multifamily housing. Renters increasingly seek environments that support everyday lifestyle needs, including those associated with caring for pets. Successful pet-friendly apartment communities typically extend beyond simply permitting animals. They often incorporate reasonable policies, professionally managed settings, access to outdoor areas, walkable surroundings, and spacious floor plans while maintaining standards that serve the full resident population.

Lockwood Communities, which develops and manages apartment communities and townhomes throughout

Michigan and Ohio, illustrates how multifamily providers integrate these considerations into residential operations. The company's portfolio of more than 30 communities includes living options described as suitable for residents and their furry companions, with pet-friendly policies noted across multiple properties.

"Pet-friendly apartments have become an important factor for many individuals and families when selecting rental housing," said Matt Gatewood, Executive Vice President of Management at Lockwood Communities. "Professionally managed communities recognize that supporting residents who have pets can contribute to everyday convenience and a stronger sense of connection to their living environment."

Thoughtful pet accommodations may support resident comfort by reducing barriers related to daily routines such as walking animals or providing space for play. In apartment living, features like outdoor areas and clear community expectations help create settings where pet owners can maintain their lifestyle without compromising the experience of other residents. Multifamily housing operators continue to refine approaches that balance these interests through consistent management practices and attention to shared spaces.

Apartment communities that address pet-related needs as part of a wider focus on resident lifestyle often see these elements as contributing to long-term satisfaction. When residents can accommodate household members that include pets, they may form stronger attachments to their community and experience greater continuity in their housing choices. This dynamic aligns with broader industry recognition that renter preferences continue to shape planning and services in multifamily housing.

"Professionally managed apartment communities work to support a variety of resident needs, including those of households with pets," Matt Gatewood added. "The goal is to foster environments where thoughtful policies and practical amenities help maintain comfortable living conditions for everyone."

These considerations form part of ongoing discussions in the multifamily sector about how rental housing can respond to changing household compositions and lifestyle expectations. Pet-friendly apartments represent one aspect of this evolution, highlighting the role that carefully managed communities play in meeting practical requirements while preserving quality of life across the resident population. As renter preferences continue to develop, apartment communities that incorporate such accommodations alongside other features of community living remain relevant examples of adaptation within the industry.

Lockwood Communities forms part of Lockwood Companies, which launched in 1987 in Southeast Michigan through Lockwood Development and Lockwood Construction. Lockwood Management was established in 2000 as a full-service multifamily management company, and the organization maintains a portfolio of more than 30 apartment communities and townhomes spanning Michigan and Ohio. These include affordable and income-based apartments as well as market-rate options, all operated with a focus on professionally managed residential environments.

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Lockwood Communities

At Lockwood, we offer affordable, income-based, senior, and market-rate apartments and townhomes across Michigan and Ohio. With 30+ communities, we focus on comfort, accessibility, and creating welcoming places to live.

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