



## Caregiver Tips: Important Things to Look for in a Memory Care Assisted Living Community

Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia are progressive in nature and loved ones will eventually require more care and support than can be provided appropriately in the home setting. Today, memory care assisted living communities can be an ideal solution for loved ones who require a substantial amount of care and supervision. However, it is important to do the appropriate research to assure that you select the community with which you are most comfortable.

The [SeniorHomes.com](#) article, "[Memory Care Checklist: What to Look For](#)" and The Alzheimer's Association's "[Care Facility Checklist](#)" provide useful guidelines to help you make the right decision for your loved one – and for you.

Examples of the key considerations include:

- **Programs and Services** – Are there appropriate health and behavioral care services, regular planned activities and recurring care planning sessions? Is there a focus on resident engagement?
- **Environment** – Do the residents appear well cared for? Are resident rooms and common areas spacious, safe and clean? Is there a family visiting area? Can residents bring favorite items with them?
- **Staffing** – Do staff members have the proper tools, training and perspective to care for the special needs of those with Alzheimer's and other forms of memory loss? Is privacy, respect and dignity a clear priority?
- **Meals** – Is the food nutritious and appetizing and are there regular meal and snack times? Are family members and friends welcome to dine with their loved ones?
- **Family Involvement** – Are you encouraged to be part of your loved one's life and care planning, as well as to communicate as often as needed with staff?
- **Policies and Procedures** – Can families participate in their loved ones care and activities?

**North Woods Village at Edison Lakes** is the area's first single-purpose residential [Memory Care Assisted Living Community](#) (MCAL) dedicated to caring for those with Alzheimer's disease, dementia and other memory impairments as well as providing education, support and resources to area caregivers and their families. The unique, [purpose-built architectural design](#) of **North Woods Village at Edison Lakes** is one element of "[NEW DIRECTIONS<sup>SM</sup>](#)" the community's signature memory care program that provides the optimal balance of loving care, dignified support, social engagement, wellness and independence.

For more information on **North Woods Village at Edison Lakes** and our [Caregiver Education & Support Calendar](#), please [contact us](#) today!

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