Summer in Ann Arbor is a peaceful time. Most students have either graduated or returned home for summer vacation—or more typically, summer jobs. The faculty has scattered to the winds, traveling about the globe, combining scholarly work and traveling vacations. Even those students and faculty who stay in Ann Arbor to work on their research or take additional courses usually slow their pace a bit.

Yet, while relaxed, campus life in summertime is also rewarding. The Arb is green and lush, with peonies in bloom, and an occasional event such as a Shakespeare performance, or a Woodland Dance. The Botanical Gardens also provide a quiet place to enjoy nature trails and the colorful display of the various gardens. The Ann Arbor Summer Art Fair takes over the town in July when visitors from around the country enjoy the four-day event. Summer Camps for schoolgirls and boys are plentiful, from athletics to computers. And perhaps most significant, during August, the streets are quiet and one can actually find a place to park! Yet the calm is brief, since as September approaches, students return to claim their rentals, the faculty returns to prepare for fall classes, and the campus is active and alive, prepared for a new beginning.
Summer
Religion, Morality, and Knowledge, being necessary to good Government and the Happiness of Mankind, Schools and the Means of Education shall forever be encouraged.

Northwest Ordinance 1787