



Senior Neighbors

The Hagerstown Housing Authority is committed to providing quality, affordable housing in a safe environment. Through partnership with our residents and other groups we will provide opportunities for those we serve to become self-sufficient.



December 2022

To associate on neighborly terms To be friendly Persons who live near others

IMPORTANT Reminder About the Community Service and Self Sufficiency Requirement

The Community Service hour requirement was suspended beginning in May 2021, due to COVID-19. The suspension ended effective April 30, 2022. Therefore, Public Housing residents 18 years of age and older who are not otherwise exempt*, started accruing 8 community service hours each month beginning May 1, 2022. Housing Specialists have begun to notify all non-exempt Public Housing residents of the number of hours they currently owe at this year's Annual Recertification. Residents may contact their Public Housing Specialists to clarify if they are accruing hours and how many hours they now owe. It is very important to note that all residents must be current with their community service hours at their Annual Recertification beginning May 2023. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in eviction for non-compliance.

You may be asking, "Where can community service hours be completed?" Community Service Hours can be completed at local non-profit agencies, your children's school, Boys and Girls Club, Children in Need, Habitat for Humanity-Restore, just to name a few. If you need to complete hours, contact the Housing Authority to obtain a list of agencies and the Community Service Hour timesheet. Then contact an agency, complete the hours, have the timesheet completed and turn it in to Housing for verification.

*Reasons for exemption:

- Elderly Persons (62 years or older)
- Individuals who are blind or disabled, as defined under the law, and who certify that they are, as a result of their blindness or disability, unable to comply with the requirement
- Primary caretakers of blind or disabled individuals (must provide documentation)
- Individuals who are engaged in work activities at least 30 hours per week at minimum wage, including wages, tips, or other compensation
- Individuals exempt from work activities by a state program funded under the Social Security Act or by any other state welfare program
- Individuals receiving assistance who have been found to be in compliance with state or TANF requirements to include receipt of SNAP (Food Stamps-effective 08/13/2015).

The Hagerstown Housing Authority Will Close To Observe The Following Holidays



Friday, December 23, 2022
Monday, December 26, 2022
In Observance of Christmas



Friday, December 30, 2022
Monday, January 2, 2023
In Observance of New Year's

The Hagerstown Housing Authority will close early on Thursday December 22, 2022 at 12 pm for our Employee All Staff-Meeting

What's Happening In Your Community

Walnut Towers Contact: Treyvon King

Tenant Assoc. Meeting: December 5, 2022, at 5 pm
BINGO: Tuesdays 4-8 PM
Christmas Craft w/ Resident Services: December 14, 2022, at 2 pm **(Please sign up with Heather Nutter)**
Christmas Party Bingo: December 17, 2022, at 5 pm
Cookies, Carols, Cocoa: December 15, 2022, 2:30-4 pm - 8th Floor Community Room

Potomac Towers Contact: Deena Holder

Tenant Meeting: December 12, 2022, at 5 pm **(new time)**
Quarters & Stamps: Tuesdays & Thursdays 10-11:30 am
Exercise Class w/ Lisa Bennett: Thursdays 4-5 pm in Rooftop Sky Lounge
Christmas Craft w/ Resident Services: December 9, 2022, at 2 pm **(Please sign up with Heather Nutter)**
Cookies, Carols, Cocoa: December 15, 2022, 10-11:30 am - Community Room

CW Brooks Contact: Heather Nutter

Committee Meeting: December 8, 2022, at 4:30 pm **(new time)**
Cookies, Carols, Cocoa: December 8, 2022, 2:30- 4 pm - Multipurpose Room
Christmas Craft w/ Resident Services: Date/Time to be determined at Committe Meeting



Krumpe's Donut Drop
December 31, 2022 5-7 pm
 The Maryland Theatre welcomes people to the Public Square to celebrate the coming of the New Year! Watch the giant donut descend, enjoy some Krumpe's Donuts, and dance in the streets!



NOW OFFERING LIMITED HOME DELIVERY
 240-310-9258
 Located inside of the C.W. Brooks
 45 W. Baltimore Street
 Store hours (may vary due to staffing)
 Mon-Fri 8 am-7 pm
 Sat - 9 am - 2 pm



The Washington County Health Department will begin the Winter drive-thru and walk-up schedule behind the C.W. Brooks Building. Please enter from Lee Street. Mondays and Wednesdays, 10a-2p



Hagerstown Housing Main	301.733.6911
Security.....	301.730.2096
Maintenance.....	301.733.6916
<u>Resident Services Department</u>	
Dianne Rudisill	301.733.6911 ext. 125
Deena Holder.....	301.733.6911 ext. 163
Heather Nutter.....	301.733.6911 ext. 170
Treyvon King.....	301.733.6911 ext. 171
Tacy Myers	301.733.6911 ext. 157
Kelly Mills.....	301.733.6911 ext. 158
Pam Schnebly.....	301.733.6911 ext. 167

from: **Security**

Security Phone Number: 301.730.2096

We have made it easier for you to report a concern.

Security's Report-A-Concern can now be accessed directly at
www.hagerstownha.com/reportaconcern
or you can also scan the QR code





From: **Maintenance**

Maintenance Phone Number: 301.733.6916



PEST CONTROL SCHEDULE

12/7/22: PT: 401-424, 528-531

12/14/22: PT: 501-527

12/21/22: PT: 605-632

12/28/22: PT: 601-604, 709-731, Trash Rooms & Dumpsters

12/8/22: WTA: 505-516

12/15/22: WTA: 601-616

12/22/22: WTA: 701-710

12/29/22: WTA: 711-716, 810-816

SLIPPERY WHEN "COLD"

Please use caution when traveling outside of the building during the frigid days of winter. Periods of sunlight cause the snow/ice to melt and then refreeze, creating instant patches of ice. Take the extra time to avoid such areas for your safety.

HEATING SEASON

Before you call Maintenance for service for your heat this season, make sure the room temperature is below 66 degrees. The room temperature must drop to 66 or below for the heat to come on. If the temperature in your unit is 66 degrees or above and you call for service, you will be charged for the call.

Overtime callouts are very expensive and you can avoid these charges (minimum of \$97.08) by checking the temperature before you call. Do not force the thermostat beyond the limit on the dial. Broken thermostats are charged to the resident. Keep your windows locked as this provides a much better seal and reduces air leakage at the windows. **Remember, using your oven or stove as a heat source is dangerous and a lease violation. This not only poses a serious health risk to you but also will result in damage to your appliance (melted knobs) for which you will be charged.**

SMOKE DETECTORS

Your home is equipped with smoke detectors that are powered by electricity and battery back-up in the event of a power outage. If the detector "beeps" frequently this could indicate the need for a new battery. Call the Maintenance Department at 301-733-6916 to install this battery for you at no charge. Any other smoke detector problem is also a job for maintenance. **DO NOT TAMPER WITH THE SMOKE DETECTOR** this is a lease infraction and will be reported to Housing. **IF YOU BREAK THE SMOKE DETECTOR, YOU WILL BE CHARGED FOR BOTH A REPLACEMENT DETECTOR AND A TAMPERING FEE OF \$25.00.**

A/C UNITS & TAPE RESIDUE

Now that all the air conditioning units have been removed from the windows, there is one more item that needs to be checked and corrected. The tape and the tape residue need to be removed when the A/C unit is removed. Please take some time to check the windows and frames and remove any tape or tape residue that may exist.

BALCONY REMINDER

Per Exhibit G, Section IC of your lease, "Nothing is to be hung over or attached to the railing, with the exception of approved satellite dishes". This includes lights, decorations, etc. We would also like to ask residents not to throw things off their balconies. Cigarette butts, bottles and bread seem to be the items most commonly found on the ground. Many people spend a great deal of time and effort making their balconies an outdoor space to enjoy; they do not appreciate having garbage thrown into their space. The Maintenance Department would also appreciate not having to pick up the garbage that accumulates on the ground.

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS YOU'RE NOT ALONE

End of the Road N/A Group now offering support at the following locations:

- **Sundays**, 3:30 pm -4:30 pm Parkside Homes Community Center
 - The last Sunday of each month is a special meeting and will last until 6pm
- **Tuesdays (MEN)** - 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm, Parkside Homes Community Center
- **Tuesdays (WOMEN)** -7:00 pm - 8:15 pm, Douglass Court (419 Park Place)

MIR INSPECTIONS

Tuesday January 3rd: 11 S. Walnut St 101-116
Wednesday January 4th: 11 S. Walnut St 201-216
Monday January 9th: 11 S. Walnut St 301-316
Tuesday January 10th: 12 S. Walnut St 101-116
Friday January 13th: 12 S. Walnut St 201-216

We Are Merging Our Newsletters

To help streamline how our residents receive Housing Authority information and updates, in January 2023 we will be combining our Public Housing Senior, Family, and Gateway Crossing Newsletters. This will ensure that all residents are receiving the same information in a timely manner!

Sign up to receive the Newsletter via email:

www.hagerstownha.com/monthlynews

Used Furniture Bed Bug Tips

- Don't be afraid to ask the owners of the furniture directly if they currently have or have ever had a bed bug infestation.
- Place any smaller used furniture items in a black plastic trash bag, and leave it in the sun for a few hours. The heat should kill any bed bugs.
- Do not take furniture from dumps or furniture left on the road side. Furniture like this is generally thrown away for good reason, and bed bugs are often why.
- Avoid bringing used furniture into your home from high risk bed bug areas or neighbors you know have had bedbugs in the past.
- Avoid used mattresses and box springs all together. They just aren't worth the risk!
- Avoid purchasing fabric covered or wooden furniture from yard sales, flea markets, etc., Bed bugs will hide deep inside these items and not come out until later when you are relaxing on the furniture.
- And of course if at all possible just avoid used furniture all together.

FINANCIAL EDUCATION SERIES

Financial Education Partnership-Washington County offers **FREE** monthly online classes to help members in our community to take charge of their finances.

All classes are online, 6pm - 7pm

To register, contact:

Ladetra Robinson 301-733-2371 x105

ladetra@reachofwc.org



December 22nd - Identity Theft & Scams

