



February Resident Newsletter

January 31, 2024



Rent is due on Thursday, February 1, 2024. Late fees will be assessed at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 6, 2024.

Upcoming Meetings

Upcoming meetings are as follows & will be held in the Highrise Conference Room:

Thursday, February 8, 2024, 9:00 a.m.	Big Rapids Housing Commission Meeting
Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 3:30 p.m.	Resident Council Meeting
Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 4:00 p.m.	Neighborhood Watch Meeting

All meetings will be held in the Highrise Conference Room. All residents are invited to attend.

Signatures Needed

If your apartment # appears on this list, please stop by the office and sign your completed rent review:

1B 1C 1D 2C 3A 4A 4B 4C 6A 6B 6D 7B 7D 8A 8B 8CU 8D 18C 113E 116B 118A 118B 119B
119D 119E 120D 120E 121A 121C 122E 123A 123D 123E 124A 124C 124E 125D 126A 126C 127A
127C 127D 127E 127F 128A 128B 128E 129B 129D 131A 131B 131C 131D 131E 132A 132C 132D
132E 133A 133B 133C 133D 133E 134A 134C 135A 135B 135C 135D 135G 201

Highrise Community Room Activities

- Euchre schedule is as follows: Mondays at 1:00 p.m., Fridays at 5:00 p.m., and the 2nd Sunday of every month at 3:00 p.m.
- Bible Study on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m.
- Mexican Train on Wednesdays at 12:00 p.m.
- Crafting Creations on Wednesdays from 2:30 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
- Bingo is cancelled for winter break until further notice.
- Uno on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.



Free Tax Preparation –AARP Tax Program for 60 and older

AARP Foundation Volunteer Tax Program is designed for taxpayers with low and moderate incomes, with special attention to those age 60 and older. The program is run entirely by volunteers from Tuesday, February 6, 2024, through Thursday, April 11, 2024. You must have all of the necessary paperwork at the time of appointment. Appointments can be scheduled beginning Thursday, January 25, 2024, by calling the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) at 231-796-4848.

Free Tax Preparation- for all ages

Mid-Michigan Community Action Agency is offering tax filing services. Please call 231-660-0271 to make an appointment. Virtual and in-person appointments are available.

Reporting Income Changes

Please remember that the lease states that you must promptly report income changes to Management **within ten (10) days** of occurrence. Please do not wait until you receive your first paycheck.

Reminder!

Wipes are not flushable! Even if the package claims they are sewer safe and flushable, they **ARE NOT**, and this eventually leads to clogged sewer lines. A charge will apply if wipes are found to be the cause of your sewer back up.

Winter Reminders

To assist with snow removal, please make sure all rugs have been brought inside for the winter. They can get caught in the maintenance equipment and cause damage.

Resident Sidewalks

Residents shall be responsible to remove snow and ice from the immediate unit area, patios, porches and service walks to the main sidewalk. If you are unable to clear your personal sidewalk due to medical reasons, it will be necessary for you to provide a doctor's note.

Residents must use ice melt or ice pellets to remove ice from the sidewalk. Ice melt is available in the office and other designated locations listed below – you must bring your own container. Rock salt is not allowed. **The maintenance staff will be inspecting walks every day. If your sidewalk is in an unsatisfactory condition, we will tag your door and give you 24 hours to clear your sidewalk or you will be charged \$47.00 per hour plus supplies for BRHC to clear your walk for you.**

Ice Melt

Ice melt is available at the following locations free of charge - please bring your own container:

- For South Parkview Buildings 10-31: At office entry and under canopy by 19 Building.
- For Family in Buildings 1-8: Top of steps between 4 and 7 Buildings
- For Family in Buildings 115-117: By mailboxes
- For North Parkview Buildings 110-114: Under North Community Room Canopy Entry.
- For North Parkview Buildings 101-109: Under canopy between 101 and 102 Buildings.
- For Evergreen 118-135 Buildings: By mailboxes near 119,125, and 132 Buildings.

Please make sure you are securing the salt bucket lid after getting salt to avoid snow/water from getting inside.

Snow Removal Reminders

Do Not Pull Your Vehicle Over the Sidewalks!!!



Be prepared to move or have someone move your vehicle on snow days so all parking areas may be plowed properly. Residents shall be responsible to remove snow and ice from the immediate unit area, patios, porches and service walks to main sidewalk.

In most cases, it is necessary for ALL vehicles to move from the lot. Be considerate to others in your area who make the effort to move.

Please contact the office if you observe any icy sidewalks or lots that need attention. Ice melt is available for sale in the office – you must bring your own container.

Please be on the lookout for our snow removal trucks and tractors! Keep a safe distance from this equipment. The maintenance staff is concerned for your safety, as many people walk out in front of and behind them. With all the attached equipment on their vehicles, it makes it very difficult for them to see a pedestrian behind their vehicle – especially children.

Any vehicle improperly parked, inoperable or unlicensed will be tagged and towed after 48 hours at the owner's expense. (Only 12 hours will be given for vehicles that do not move for snow removal).

Thanks for your cooperation in assisting with the snow removal process. Ice melt is available at each entry.

Reminder to Keep Your Vehicle Locked

For your safety and your belongings, it is important that you keep your car locked at all times.



Laundry room

Please be reminded that you are not to leave your laundry unattended in a washer or dryer. Big Rapids Housing is not responsible for your clothing if removed by another tenant waiting to use the machines. Please also be reminded that you are limited to two washers or two dryers at a time.

Useful Information

We have received a few calls requesting more salt. Here is some good information on why at times we may not salt. Please use caution and stay safe.

Parking on City Streets

Beginning Wednesday, November 15, 2023, parking is not allowed on city streets from 2 a.m. – 6 a.m. until Friday, March 15, 2024. This is to allow for snow removal. The City of Big Rapids will ticket and/or tow your vehicle if you park on the streets during this time.

Maintenance Reminders to All Residents

If you are aware of an emergency work order, such as having no heat, or toilet not flushing – call during hours of operation, if possible! Please do NOT wait until the end of the day to report an issue you were aware of earlier in the day! Please do not use Mop & Glo when waxing your floors. For more information, please contact the office.

Trash Disposal Reminder

Please do not send your children to take garbage bags out to the dumpster if they are too small to reach the openings of the dumpster. A lot of garbage bags are being left on the ground by the dumpster and/or being tossed and not making into the dumpster. If your garbage is identified outside the dumpster you will be invoiced \$10.00 in accordance with the garbage collection policy.

Thermostats

Please be reminded that the thermostats will not go above 72°. If you force the thermostat past 72° it will break, the connection to the heating system will be lost, you will have no heat and you will be charged up to \$108.50 to replace the thermostat. The Big Rapids Housing Commission is able to increase the temperature past 72° if the resident provides a letter from a doctor stating that a documented medical condition exists.

Maintenance Treatment for Bed Bugs

Residents will receive an additional notification. This is the tentative schedule for February 2024:

Apt #	Date	Apt #	Date	Apt #	Date
12A	2/14/24	14C	2/21/24	17B	2/28/24
12B	2/14/24	15A	2/21/24	17C	2/28/24
12C	2/14/24	15B	2/21/24	18A	2/28/24
13A	2/14/24	15C	2/21/24	18B	2/28/24
13B	2/14/24	16A	2/21/24	18C	2/28/24
13C	2/14/24	16B	2/21/24	19A	2/28/24
14A	2/14/24	16C	2/21/24	19B	2/28/24
14B	2/14/24	17A	2/21/24	19C	2/28/24



You are required to contact the office immediately or within 24 hours if you suspect you see bed bugs or other vermin in your apartment.

Cockroach Information

Sanitation is the Key

- Remove/discard trash and unneeded newspapers, magazines, piles of paper bags, rags, boxes and other items that provide hiding places and harborage.
- Store opened items of food in insect proof containers such as glass jars or sealable plastic containers.
- Drain all sinks in the kitchen and bathrooms and remove any food debris.
- Floors need to remain clean (swept and/or mopped) at all times.
- Do not leave unsealed food items in bedrooms, living area, etc.

Mecosta Osceola Career Center (MOCC) Salon – Open To All Residents

The Salon is now located at the Mecosta Osceola Career Center. The MOCC Salon will be open Tuesday through Friday. Haircuts are \$2.00, which includes a cut and style, additional services are also available. The MOCC restaurant is also open so you can enjoy lunch for \$8.00. Residents must call the salon at (231) 796-5807 to schedule an appointment. Make sure to mention you are a Big Rapids Housing Commission resident to receive the same special rates as last year.

Local Resources

Mid-Michigan Community Action Agency (231) 660-0271
Project Starburst (231) 796-5342
Meals on Wheels (231) 972-2884
Michigan Works (231) 796-0049
Manna Pantry (231) 408-2940
Angels of Action (231) 629-8140

Hope House

Hope house is offering free medical services to adults in Mecosta County with no medical insurance. Please call (231) 598-9500 or visit hopehouseclinic.org for further information.



Big Rapids Community Library

VALENTINE LAB

CREATE YOUR OWN VALENTINE'S DAY CARD. ALL SUPPLIES PROVIDED.

FEBRUARY 8TH - 10TH
ALL AGES WELCOME



creativebug FOR LIBRARIES

Art & Craft Workshop

Every Tuesday in February | 4-5 PM

In February, BRCL will host four separate Arts & Crafts Workshops for the **2024 Festival of the Arts.**

426 S. Michigan Ave
Big Rapids, MI 49307
(231) 796-5234
www.bigrapidslibrary.org

REGISTER NOW
Space is limited.
Register by phone or log into your account and find the sign-up under "Events & Rooms."