

January Newsletter

December 29, 2021

Big Rapids Housing Commission wishes you a Happy New Year!

Rent is due January 1, 2022. Late fees will be assessed at 8:00 am on Thursday, January 6, 2022.

Holiday Schedule – Big Rapids Housing Commission

The Big Rapids Housing Commission will be closed on the following days in observance of the Holidays:
New Year: Thursday, December 30, 2021 - Friday, December 31, 2021

The office will also be closed on Monday, January 17, 2022, in observance of Martin Luther King Jr, Day.

Upcoming Meetings

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

Tuesday, January 11, 2022, 3:30 p.m.	Resident Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 11, 2022, 4:00 p.m.	Neighborhood Watch Meeting
Thursday, January 13, 2022, 9:00 a.m.	Big Rapids Housing Commission Meeting
Thursday, January 13, 2022, 9:00 a.m.	Public Hearing, 2022 Annual Plan

Signatures Needed

If your apartment # appears on this list, then you need to stop by the office and sign your completed rent review: 2C 2D 4A 4B 6D 7B 14C 15A 18C 105A 105B 106C 107C 108C 112A 113A 118B 118C 119B 119C 119D 121A 121B 122D 123A 123D 124B 126B 127C 127D 128D 131E 131F 134B 134D 135C 135D 135F

Parkview & Evergreen FAMILY Apartments – Rent Recertification

If your apartment # appears on this list, then you have not returned the rent recertification documentation for your annual rent review. Please do so by January 7, 2022, or your April rent will increase to the flat rent. The flat rent amounts are based on bedroom size, but average \$1,000.00 per month. If you misplaced the documents we mailed you please come to the office to receive another copy. The following still need to provide their documentation: 1A 1C 2A 2B 3D 4A 4D 5D 6A 6B 6C 6D 7A 7B 8D 115B 115C 116A 116B 116C 117B 118B 118C 119C 119D 120E 121A 121B 121C 122C 122D 123B 123C 123D 124C 124D 125B 125D 126A 126B 126C 127B 127C 127E 127F 128C 129A 129D 131D 131E 131F 132D 133B 133D 134B 134C 135B 135C 135E 135F 135G 102F 105A 106C 108A 111A 113E 201

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. All garden hoses should have been removed off the building to prevent damage.

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.



Please contact the office if you observe any icy sidewalks or lots that need attention.

Many of you are not moving your vehicles for snow removal. 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 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.

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 & 7 Buildings
- For Family in Buildings 115-117: By mailboxes
- For North Parkview Buildings 110-114: In circle drive beside out-going mail box.
- For North Parkview Buildings 101-109: Under canopy between 101 & 102 Buildings.
- For Evergreen 118-135 Buildings: By mailboxes near 119 & 132 Buildings.

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

Tips for Avoiding Slips and Falls in the Winter, Snow and Ice

The winter months are accompanied by slippery conditions that result in slips and falls. If you must go outside you should wear shoes that provide good traction and dress warmly. Being cold may cause you to hurry or tense your muscles which could affect your balance. Give yourself plenty of time to travel. Be careful when exiting your vehicle by putting both feet on the ground before standing up. Always use sidewalks, cleared paths and avoid shortcuts. Pay attention to the walking surface and look for slippery surfaces. Remember that once parking lots, sidewalks, and steps are cleared they could be covered with black ice. Only carry necessary items because bulky items could cause you to lose your balance. Please contact the office if you observe any icy sidewalks or lots that need attention.

Please try to avoid leaving your apartment during any severe weather, unless absolutely necessary.



Neighborhood Watch Election

The Neighborhood Watch Executive Board and Board Member positions are all up for re-election. If you are interested in running for a position or nominating someone else for a position, please contact Laurie at 231-796-8689. The election will be on January 11, 2022, during the Regular Meeting. We currently have the following nominations: President: Doug Hacko and Patricia Worthing, Vice President: Open, Board Members: Phyllis Loveland, Deb Priest, Marsha Schoenborn, Douglas White and Susan Cendrowski.

Neighborhood Watch – Get Involved

The Neighborhood Watch program was created in 2004 and has been very successful over the years. There are currently several openings on the Neighborhood Watch Board, and we need residents to join to keep the program successful. If you are interested in joining the board/program, please contact Laurie & plan to attend the next meeting on Tuesday, January 11, 2022, at 4:00 p.m. Supportive residents are greatly needed to make a difference and help keep our neighborhood safe.

PHA Plan Public Hearing

The Big Rapids Housing Commission has revised its' Annual Plan for fiscal year 2022. It is available for review from November 15, 2021, until January 3, 2022, at the Big Rapids Housing Commission Office located at 9 Parkview Village, Big Rapids, Michigan. The Commission's hours of operation are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. All comments must be received by January 3, 2022, at 4:30 p.m. A public hearing will be held on Thursday, January 13, 2022, in the Housing Commission's Conference Room at 9:00 a.m.

Reminder to Keep Your Vehicle Locked

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

Parking over Sidewalks

A reminder to **NOT** park your vehicle over the sidewalk. The maintenance staff is unable to get their equipment through these tight areas.

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 approximately \$101.00 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.

Close Windows

Reminder to close your windows! Do not leave them open in this cold weather. This allows an excessive amount of heated air to escape, causing the utility bill to increase.

NO WIPES

Please be reminded that 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 personal wipes are found to be the cause of your sewer back up.

Excess Utility Charge for Residents in apartments 101-A – 114-D – Call to Report your Space Heater

Please be reminded where no direct metering or check metering is in place, monthly charges will be assessed for resident owned appliances. This includes all residents living in 101A thru 114D ONLY. Residents in these apartments will be charged \$21.00 per month for excess electric usage for using a space heater. If you live in the North Parkview Senior Section, it is your responsibility to report your space heater to the office (the same as you do your air conditioner). Management will apply the excess utility charge for the period you use the heater and remove the charge when you report that you are no longer using the heater. All space heaters must be approved by the Big Rapids Housing Commission. A resident who fails to report the possession of a resident owned appliance will be assessed a \$50.00 fee. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

Stove Top Reminder

Please do NOT store anything on your stove top as this is a fire hazard.

COVID EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE

The U.S. Department of Treasury's ("Treasury") Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program makes funding available to assist households that are unable to pay rent or utilities. The funds were provided directly to states, U.S. territories, local governments, and (in the case of the first program, ERA1) to Indian tribes or Tribally Designated Housing Entities, as applicable, and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Grantees use the funds to assist eligible households through existing or newly created rental assistance programs. In guidance and FAQs, Treasury advised that participants in HUD-assisted rental programs (including the Housing Choice Voucher (HCV), Public Housing, or Project-Based Rental Assistance programs) are eligible for the ERA program and may receive assistance for the tenant-owed portion of rent or utilities that is not subsidized.

In FAQs for PHAs and HCV landlords, PIH clarified that this assistance can include rent arrearages and utilities owed over the utility allowance. The FAQs include additional guidance on interim reexaminations, income calculations, and additional considerations for private landlords participating in the HCV program.

To learn more about how to apply for ERA go to MSHDA's website:

<https://www.michigan.gov/mshda/0,4641,7-141-5555-533463--,00.html> or contact Mid Michigan Community Action Agency at 1-877-213-5955. State and local ERA grantees can also be accessed from Treasury's website using the link "Find rental assistance in your area."

Power Outage Reminders

In case of a power outage, please remember:

- Stay calm and alert.
- Contact 911 and request assistance if your health is at risk due to the utility failure.
- The highrise lobby will be open.

Maintenance Treatment for Bed Bugs

Residents will receive an additional notification. This is the tentative schedule for January 2022:

Apt #	Date	Apt #	Date	Apt #	Date
119B	1/12/22	120E	1/19/22	122C	1/26/22
119C	1/12/22	121A	1/19/22	122D	1/26/22
119D	1/12/22	121B	1/19/22	122E	1/26/22
119E	1/12/22	121C	1/19/22	123A	1/26/22
120A	1/12/22	121D	1/19/22	123B	1/26/22
120B	1/12/22	121E	1/19/22	123C	1/26/22
120C	1/12/22	122A	1/19/22	123D	1/26/22
120D	1/12/22	122B	1/19/22	123E	1/26/22

