



December 28, 2023

Big Rapids Housing Commission wishes you a Happy New Year!

Rent is due January 1, 2024. Late fees will be assessed at 8:00 am on Monday, January 8, 2024.

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: Friday, December 29, 2023 - Monday, Jan 1, 2024

The office will also be **closed** on Monday, January 15, 2024, 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 9, 2024, 3:30 p.m. Resident Council Meeting
- Tuesday, January 9, 2024, 4:00 p.m. Neighborhood Watch Meeting
- Thursday, January 11, 2024, 9:00 a.m. PHA Plan Public Hearing
- Thursday, January 11, 2024, 9:00 a.m. Big Rapids Housing Commission Meeting

Signatures Needed

If your apartment # appears on this list, then you need to stop by the office and sign your completed rent review:
3A 6B 7B 18C 19B 113E 117B 118A 118B 120E 121A 122D 122E 123D 126A 126B 127C 127E
129D 131A 131B 131E 133C 134C 135G 201

Parkview Family & Evergreen Apartments

In December 2023, you were mailed your annual recertification paperwork. You were given a return deadline date of January 5, 2024. Please be reminded if you do not return your completed documents, your April rent will increase to the flat rent rate.

PHA Plan Public Hearing

The Big Rapids Housing Commission has revised its' Annual Plan for fiscal year 2024. A public hearing will be held on Thursday, January 11, 2024, in the Housing Commission's Conference Room at 9:00 a.m.

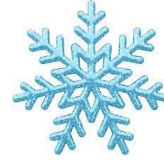
Thermostats

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.



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 on Thursdays at 3:00 p.m.
- Uno on Tuesdays at 1:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.



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.

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 outgoing 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.

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.

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.**



IF YOU ARE AWARE OF A SLIPPERY AREA, PLEASE REPORT IT TO THE OFFICE DURING BUSINESS HOURS. FEEL FREE TO USE THE FREE SALT LOCATED IN YOUR AREA AFTER HOURS.

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.

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 \$28.00 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.

*Space heaters must be UL approved (Underwriters Laboratory Safety Compliance - UL LISTED) and be approved by the Big Rapids Housing Commission.

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.




Stove Top Reminder

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



Maintenance Treatment for Bed Bugs

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



Apt #	Date	Apt #	Date	Apt #	Date
131C	1/10/2024	132E	1/17/2024	134C	1/24/2024
131D	1/10/2024	133A	1/17/2024	134D	1/24/2024
131E	1/10/2024	133B	1/17/2024	134E	1/24/2024
131F	1/10/2024	133C	1/17/2024	135A	1/24/2024
132A	1/10/2024	133D	1/17/2024	135B	1/24/2024
132B	1/10/2024	133E	1/17/2024	135C	1/24/2024
132C	1/10/2024	134A	1/17/2024	135D	1/24/2024
132D	1/10/2024	134B	1/17/2024	135E	1/24/2024

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

