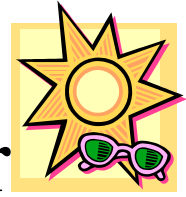




June Resident Newsletter



May 28, 2021

Office Closed

We will be closed on Monday, May 31, 2021 in observance of Memorial Day.

Upcoming Meetings

The Resident Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 8, 2021, at 3:30 p.m. via conference call. Call-in information for the meeting is **1-701-802-5178, access number is 727375**. All Neighborhood Watch Meetings have been cancelled until further notice.

The Big Rapids Housing Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, June 10, 2021, at 9 a.m. in the Highrise Conference Room. All residents are invited to attend. If you prefer to attend via zoom you may do so. Zoom instructions will be posted at the main office, Housing Commission Facebook page, and laundry rooms when available.

Rent is due on June 1, 2021. Late fees will be assessed at 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 8, 2021.

COVID-19 Operations Update

Big Rapids Housing Commission continues to take extra precautions to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Community rooms and the lobby will remain closed for the safety of all residents. Please make sure you continue to call in all repairs (work orders).

Before a maintenance person enters your apartment to complete a work order, we will ask if you or anyone in your household is sick. As a precaution we are asking residents to wear a mask and leave your apartment if possible or move to another room during the completion of the work order.

Rent is still due and payable by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 1, 2021, however if you have a loss of income and cannot pay rent, you must contact the office for additional instructions. If you are signed up for electronic rent the rent will transfer on June 5, 2021. Residents can put their rent and other items in the tenant drop box which will continue to be checked on a daily basis.

The laundry rooms **will** be open to residents only during normal hours.

Temporary Resident Only Job Opportunity- Section 3 Resident Needed

We have several contractors that will be performing work on Big Rapids Housing property this summer. They are looking for a laborer to assist them with light demolition, cleanup, sanitizing and cleaning. You must be a resident to apply. Applications are available at the Housing Commission Office.

Concrete Work – Parkview Highrise –Parkview South Family and Parkview North

Please look for fresh concrete at Parkview Village. We will be replacing sidewalks and concrete behind the Highrise and in various areas throughout Parkview Village. Orange cones and caution tape will be placed at the work site. Please avoid these areas and advise your children to stay away from the working zones.

Water keys are available in the office for the outside faucets. The cost is \$4.00.

To avoid high water bills, we continue to limit water use.

1. Sprinklers (for children to play in) can be used for 1 hour every day.
2. Kiddy pools can be filled once every day. Pools are limited to 20 gallons.
3. Watering (plants, flowers, etc.) is limited to 15 minutes.

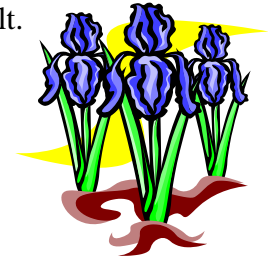
Pools are to be emptied after use. Residents are prohibited from leaving pools up overnight due to safety issues.

IN ADDITION, RUNNING TOILETS, DRIPPING SINKS, AND TUB FAUCETS NEED TO BE REPORTED IMMEDIATELY TO THE OFFICE FOR REPAIR.

Playground Policy Rules!

To avoid injuries on the playground children are required to follow the playground rules. Children below the age of thirteen (13) must be supervised at all times, including while they are on the playground. The playground area is open for play during daylight hours. To avoid injuries this area is prohibited at 9:00 p.m. or dark, whichever comes first. The following rules are posted on the playground:

1. Use of playground equipment is at your own risk.
2. Play area reserved for residents only.
3. Young residents under the age of thirteen (13) must be accompanied by an adult.
4. No rough playing or yelling permitted.
5. Only 1 person per swing at a time.
6. No jumping off sliding board.
7. No glass bottles in play area.
8. No one over the age of sixteen (16) permitted to use equipment.



Bed Bug Prevention

Bed bugs are hard to prevent because of their small size, night habits, and ability to hitchhike.

Here are some prevention tips:

- Be on the lookout for signs of infestations such as: waking up with bites; seeing live bugs, or dark red or black spots on bedding, carpets, walls, and furniture. Finding bed bugs early is the key to preventing their spread.
- Inspect used furniture closely before bringing into your home. Look for signs of infestations in cushions, zippers, seams, and underneath including springs and frames. Use a magnifying glass if possible. Beware of items in alleys and dumpsters.
- If you have carpet vacuum your home regularly. If you do have bed bugs, make sure you close the vacuum bag tightly and dispose of it outside your home.
- Contact Big Rapids Housing Commission immediately for a free inspection and treatment if you think you may have bed bugs.

Maintenance Treatment for Bed Bugs

The Housing Commission has contracted with Rose Pest Solutions to inspect all apartments for bed bugs, inspect and/or install monitors on all the accessible beds and couches. Residents will receive an additional notification. This is the tentative schedule for this month:

Apt #	Date	Apt #	Date	Apt #	Date
18A	6/10/21	20C	6/17/21	23B	6/24/21
18B	6/10/21	21A	6/17/21	23C	6/24/21
18C	6/10/21	21B	6/17/21	24A	6/24/21
19A	6/10/21	21C	6/17/21	24B	6/24/21
19B	6/10/21	22A	6/17/21	24C	6/24/21
19C	6/10/21	22B	6/17/21	25A	6/24/21
20A	6/10/21	22C	6/17/21	25B	6/24/21
20B	6/10/21	23A	6/17/21	25C	6/24/21

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

Bed Bug Monitors

The monitors that are installed in your apartment must be kept in place at all times. You will be charged \$5.00 per monitor for any damaged or removed monitors. Upon move out if all the monitors we installed are not left in the unit you will be charged \$5.00 for each monitor.

Example: 20 monitors x \$5.00 = \$100.00. **ALSO**, if your mattress is not on a bed frame it will be necessary for you to acquire a bed frame within 30 days so the monitors can be installed.

Security Cameras For your protection we have installed security cameras throughout the Big Rapids Housing Commission complexes.

Summer Reminders

Please move patio furniture, tables, toys, etc. when you see the mowers around the complex. Also, please remind your children not to leave food wrappers and debris on the lawn or hang on the clotheslines and to respect neighbors' personal property and belongings.

Laundry – Washer Use

The detergent soap pods cannot be used in the soap drawers in any of the Housing Commission laundry rooms. This will cause the washers to malfunction. If you use detergent soap pods please place directly into the wash basket and **NOT** the soap drawer.

Pull cord Reminder: PARKVIEW SENIOR SECTIONS

When a resident pulls their emergency pull cord a special light will come on near the resident's front door. 9-1-1 is not contacted. Residents are encouraged to contact the office (if open) or call 9-1-1.

Smoke Free/Flame Free/Burn Free

Please be reminded effective August 1, 2018 the Big Rapids Housing Commission implemented a policy barring the use of prohibited tobacco products in all public housing living units, interior common areas and outdoor areas. **The policy prohibits all residents, guests and employees from smoking on Big Rapids Housing Commission property and also bans candles, incense and e-cigarettes.**

Landscaping

The Big Rapids Housing Commission has contracted with New Horizons Landscape LLC to provide landscaping services. They will be cleaning the flower beds, trimming the shrubs, spraying the weeds, installing mulch in the front of the apartments, and installing cushion wood on the playgrounds.

Please assist in this process by cleaning up the area around your unit and removing any necessary items from in front of and around your unit.

Mole Tunnels/Runs

The Big Rapids Housing Commission has contracted with Rose Pest Solutions to treat for moles. Please contact the office if you have an active mole run near your building so it can be treated accordingly.

Michigan Works -Young Professionals Program

Michigan Works Young Adult Services Program will help you gain the skills to succeed in tomorrow's workforce. If you are ready to work, they can help. They are looking for young adults ages 16 – 24 who are getting ready to graduate from high school, about to start or finish their GED, teen parents or in foster care, getting ready to enter the workforce, and looking for their next step. They provide the following programs: Young Professionals Program, Training Funding Assistance, On the Job Training, and Work Experience. Give them a call at 231-796-0049 or visit michworkswc.org/youth.

Labor Rate

Effective July 1, 2021, the maintenance labor rate is increasing to \$42.00/hour and the after-hours lock out charge is changing to \$50.00.

Downtown Farmer's Market

Spring is here, and the Big Rapids Downtown Farmer's Market is back! The Farmers' Market, located at 226 N. Michigan Ave., is a showcase for locally grown food and other farm related products, providing an alternative marketing opportunity for local farmers and consumers to interact directly with each other. Hours are as follows: Tuesdays – 12 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. & Fridays – 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Pocket Park Concert Series

Every Friday from June through September, there is free live music in Pocket Park from 12:00pm to 2:00pm! Brought to you by the Schuberg Insurance Agency and Auto Owners Insurance

Location: Pocket Park (just south of 125 N. Michigan Ave.)



Increase in Electric Rate

Beginning June 1, 2021, peak pricing will go into effect through the end of September. That means from Monday through Friday in the summer, electricity will cost 1.5 times more, during the hours of 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. By shifting when you use energy, and taking advantage of energy efficiency opportunities, will help save energy.

Spectrum Health - Fit 4 U Weight Management Program

Spectrum Health is holding an 8-week weight management program. This class is free to all participants, beginning June 22, 2021 through August 17, 2021 from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. The classes take place virtually via your phone or computer. Join them as they support one another with goals for healthy eating, fitness, and weight management. This program is designed to educate and empower you in your weight loss journey by promoting positive changes in your lifestyle leading to a better quality of life and overall wellness.

- One-on-one evaluation before and after program with registered dietitian.
- Eight group sessions led by a registered dietitian and health coach.
- Personalized health coaching: Exercise instruction, grocery store tour and label reading.

To register call (231)592-4204 – space is limited.

