



Monthly Newsletter for May 2020

**CUMBERLAND HOUSING
GROUP**



Exterminator Schedule

May 8 th	Jane Frazier Village, Buildings 1 – 6 & Banneker Gardens
May 14 th	Jane Frazier Village, Buildings 7 – 17
May 19 th	Mt. Savage and National Highway
May 21 st	Fort Cumberland Homes

Grass Cutting Season is Upon Us

As a reminder, if the fencing has already been removed or when it is removed in the near future from your yard, the yard areas in front and in back of your units are now considered common space and not your own personal space. As a result of this modification, the common space will be maintained (mowed, trimmed, etc.) by our Maintenance Department from this point forward. Therefore, you no longer need to mow or trim your yard!

Any lawn furniture, grills, toys, etc., will need to be removed from the yard areas and stored either on the concrete patios, within the storage shed at the rear of your unit or stacked close to the rear of the building with your storage shed. Staff will not be responsible for damage to any personal belongings in the yards or outside of the units. Since these areas are now common space, any toys, furniture, etc. which are in the yards at the time of mowing will be removed and deposited in the dumpster. Any items that prevent a straight path for the riding mower will need to be removed.

Any lawn areas that have been dug up for any reason must be returned to grass. Any bushes, shrubs or plants that are next to the building will need to be removed immediately or they will be removed by our Maintenance Department when the grass is mowed. Your lease does not permit you to plant anything on the property or make modifications.

Please take care of any items that may pertain to your household immediately to avoid plants, belonging, etc. from being removed from your property when the grass is cut.

Rent Payments

As of this date, there is a large number of tenants that have not paid rent for March and April. Just because there is a Pandemic, HUD does not excuse you from paying your rent.

If you do not have the money for your rent, that is what you are to use the stimulus money for that you received from the government.

Those tenants that have not paid their rent will be filed in court for non-payment of rent when the court system opens back up.

Annual Recertifications

In order for the agency to conduct your Annual Recertification, you will be mailed the forms to sign or they will be delivered to you. You will be given an envelope to return the signed documents back to our office. You can either mail the envelope back to the office or place in the security drop box located at your development.

Grande View tenants can place the envelope under the Property Managers Office door.

COVID19

With “**social distancing**” still in place, there will be no activities schedule for the use of the community rooms for the month of May and this could extend over to June as well.

Marylanders must wear a face covering while inside an essential business or aboard public transportation. The directive made this week by Gov. Larry Hogan, like other orders made since he declared a state of emergency for COVID-19, carries the force of state law. Willful violations can carry up to one year in jail and a \$5,000 fine.

The CHG is requesting residents to wear mask when out of their apartments to check the mail, or going outside for walk, etc.

Work Orders

CHG maintenance staff will only be completing work orders that are emergencies, or are determined to be critical to operations. If you have a work order that is not urgent, hold your requests until further notice.



Need Help to Quit Smoking?

Are you or someone you know trying to quit smoking? Did you know there are 2 FREE ways to quit? Just call the Allegany County Health Department at 301-759-5050 or Maryland's Quit line at 1-800-784-8669.



Complaints

Reminder - All complaints must be put in writing and signed in order for action to be taken by the Housing Authority staff.

Medical Marijuana

Medical Marijuana is part of the No Smoking Policy. If you have a Dr.'s prescription for it, you must use another form of the drug. ANY SMOKING IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED ON All Housing Property.

Updated Contacted Information

Please provide the housing office with a current phone number. There are times when we need to make contact with you and are unable to get you by phone due to not having a working number. It is quite important that we are able to get in touch with you by phone. Thank you.

Need Help?

Dialing **211** helps direct callers to services for, among others, the elderly, the disabled, those who **do** not speak English, those with a personal crisis, those with limited reading skills, and those who are new to their communities.

BE AWARE OF SCAMS

During this uncertain time there are increased numbers of potential scams. Here are some helpful tips to guard against scammers from the Federal Trade Commission:

- Don't respond to texts, emails or calls about checks from the government. The details are still coming together. The government will not contact you by email, text, or phone. They will only ever contact you by mail.
 - NO State, Federal, Local, or Community-Based Organization is authorized to accept or request payment and/or fees for assisting customers with public assistance related services. In addition, the customer should not give out their full SSN (Social Security Number) to people who call them.
 - Ignore online offers for vaccinations and home test kits. There are no products proven to treat or prevent COVID-19 at this time.
 - Hang up on robocalls. Scammers are using illegal robocalls to pitch everything from low-priced health insurance to work-at-home schemes.
 - Watch for emails claiming to be from the Centers for Disease Control or the World Health Organization. Use sites like coronavirus.gov and usa.gov/coronavirus to get the latest information. And don't click on links from sources you don't know.
 - Do your homework when it comes to donations. Never donate in cash, by gift card, or by wiring money.
- To receive real-time updates, tips and resources about the coronavirus by texting MdReady to 898211

Are You a Victim of Domestic Violence?

If you or someone you know is in a Domestic Violence situation and needs help, please call the Family Crisis Resource Center Hotline 301-759-9244 for assistance.

**At this time, all
PLAYGROUNDS will
remain CLOSED until
further notice.**

