



Tower Gazette

Monthly Newsletter for June 2022

**CUMBERLAND HOUSING
GROUP**



Preventive Maintenance Inspections

June 1st John F. Kennedy – 4th Floor
June 2nd Queen City Tower – 3rd Floor

*As a reminder, a copy of the Inspection will be left in your unit for your information. If any repairs need to be done, maintenance will be returning within 20 days to complete the repairs. Entry is **MANDATORY** in order to do Inspections as well as repairs. Please continue to call the Maintenance Department (301) 724-2055 with any deficiencies even if your inspection is scheduled in the near future.*

Schedule of Standard Maintenance Charges
Don't forget to look on your first-floor bulletin board for the Schedule of Standard Maintenance Charges. We always get questions from tenants when they are charged for these services. Here are a few on the list to remember:

- Apartment Lock Out (M-F, 7 am to 5 pm excluding holidays) is \$7.85.
- Apartment Lock Out (Overtime rate for hours outside of above) is \$31.50.
- Failure to Report Need for Maintenance Repairs (Liquidation Damage) is \$25.00.

All other charges for repairs, replacements, cleaning or other work performed not listed on the Schedule due to tenant neglect or other cause, will be at the actual cost of the material plus 15% overhead and at the labor rate that is listed on that list to perform the task required.

Make sure to check your Addendum D, SCHEDULE OF STANDARD MAINTENANCE CHARGES on the first floor bulletin boards or our website, www.cumberlandhousing.org.

Exterminator Schedule

June 2nd Queen City Towers – Morning
June 2nd John F. Kennedy – Afternoon
June 15th Grande View 101 - 217

Extermination Treatment

If you are **covid positive**, you will be asked to step out of the apartment so that the exterminator can treat your apartment.

Freezer Use

When using the freezer in your refrigerator, please do not overpack it with items. The vent in the back needs to have space around it in order for it to work properly. If items are blocking the airflow, your food items will not stay frozen and water will begin to form inside.

Job Resources Available!

We want to provide our tenants with as many local resources as possible. Allegany HRDC is just one resource that has free online job workshops every month available to the public. Please check our website under **News Releases** and our bulletin boards for monthly job workshop/job fair updates.

The Cumberland Housing Group will be closed on Monday, June 20th in celebration of Juneteenth.

Problem with Mold

The tenant is responsible to keep mildew and mold out of your tubs, showers, and toilets. After your bath or shower, leave the bathroom door open and the fan run for 30 minutes if the bathroom is steamy when you are done. Be sure to keep your tubs, shower, and toilets clean! Clean them regularly.



Attention Residents - Bible Study
Cumberland Community Church

The Bible Study at Queen City Tower and John F. Kennedy is open to all tenants and guests. The following is the schedule for June:

Queen City Tower – Saturday, June 4th
John F Kennedy – Saturday, June 11th

Time: 6:30 to 7:30 pm in the community room.

(Note: Signs will be posted on the first-floor bulletin board if any Bible Study is cancelled).

Bible Study will **not** be held in July and August of 2022. We will be starting the Bible Study back up in September at both John F Kennedy and Queen City Tower. It will be posted in the newsletter.

Resident Council Meetings

Resident Councils at both Queen City Tower and John F. Kennedy will **not be** meeting during June, July, and August. The next scheduled Resident Council meeting will be held at John F. Kennedy on Wednesday, September 21st at 3 pm. The next scheduled Resident Council Meeting for Queen City Tower will be held on Thursday, September 8th at 3 pm. The Resident Councils hope that all the tenants have a wonderful summer.

COVID – 19 Information

To get the latest on the COVID-19 Vaccine, call the COVID-19 call center at 240-650-3999.

The Allegany County Health Department continues to offer free COVID-19 vaccinations for individuals ages 12 and older beginning on Wednesday, June 8th, at the Allegany County Fairgrounds from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. No appointment is needed for first and second doses of Moderna vaccine (ages 18+) and first, second, and booster doses of Pfizer vaccine (ages 12+). Appointments are recommended for the Moderna booster vaccine and individuals may schedule an appointment by visiting <http://health.maryland.gov/allegany> and clicking on the preferred clinic date.

For assistance registering for an appointment, county residents can call the COVID-19 call center at 240-650-3999. COVID-19 vaccines and boosters are also widely available at local pharmacies, urgent care clinics, and some primary care providers.

Free drive-thru COVID-19 testing is still being offered at the Allegany County Fairgrounds (11400 Moss Ave, Cumberland) on Mondays from 2 to 7 p.m. and on Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

My Groceries to Go

Those who participate in the “My Groceries to Go” program need to be home on Thursday, June 2, 2022. John F. Kennedy’s food box will arrive to your door around 9 am and Queen City Tower’s food box will arrive to your door around 2 pm. You must sign for your food box. If you have any questions, you can call 301-783-1752.

FOOD GIVEAWAY!

Third Thursday of every month
in the parking lot.
(Next one will be on June 16, 2022).

Time: 2 pm to 4 pm.

St. John’s Lutheran Church.
Located in the church parking lot.

400 Arch Street, Cumberland

Questions: call 301-724-7250

All Maryland Residents are Eligible!

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.

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

Crime Solvers Tip Line

301-722-4300

www.allegany-mineralcountycrimeslovers.com






To report **suspected Drug Activity**, leave an anonymous tip at 301-759-4660.

Paying your rent online is EASY!

Go to cumberlandhousing.org and click on the “Click here to make an online payment” tab. Simply follow the instructions. No need to leave home, go to the bank or get a ride to one of our offices. And no need for the hassle of buying money orders, envelopes or stamps.



The top five reasons for eviction

	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Rent – late or unpaid</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rent is due the 1st of the month. It is considered late after the 7th of the month. • If you pay your rent late 4 times within a 12-month period, PHA proceeds with lease termination. • If you do not pay your rent in full, PHA files Eviction Actions (unlawful detainers) in District Court around the 25th of the month.
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Illegal Drugs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “One Strike & you’re out” is a federal policy. If illegal drugs or drug paraphernalia with traces of illegal drugs are found in your possession or home --- you will be evicted. This includes any guests that may have illegal drugs also. • Marijuana, opium, and khat are examples of illegal drugs.
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Unauthorized Guests</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guests can stay with you for a maximum of 14 days from January 1 – December 31. If your guests stay longer, you can be evicted and, possibly, convicted of fraud in Federal court. Our experience has shown that guests are the #1 cause in the majority of evictions.
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Poor Housekeeping</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You need to keep your home neat & clean. Your home will be inspected each year by PHA and must meet PHA Housekeeping Standards. Cleaning your home and maintaining the exterior around your home is your responsibility.
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Neighborhood Disturbances</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your home is for YOUR enjoyment. Disturbances or loud noise happening inside or outside your home that can be heard by your neighbors can be grounds for eviction. Illegal activity <u>anywhere</u> can also be grounds for eviction.

If In Doubt, Call 2-1-1 County United Way Help Line

If you have questions about other resources specific to your situation. Who can you contact? 2-1-1 is a number you can dial and speak to someone about resources in your community that may be able to help. 2-1-1 is available 7 days per week, 24 hours per day. You can speak with someone at 2-1-1 about issues you may be facing like not having enough food, your mental health, health insurance, domestic violence, COVID-19 questions, help paying bills, or anything else health or human service related.



Hope Station Fresh Produce Giveaway June 23th, 11 am to 3 pm

The next food drop will be held on June 23rd from 11 am to 3 pm. Tenants will need to go to the Hope Station at 632 N. Centre Street if you need fresh produce. You can call 240-362-7168 for more information or if you have questions.

Behavioral Health Resources

If you need to know the Mental Health Providers or Substance Use Providers in our area, please contact Pama Wilson, Resident Service Coordinator at 301-722-7977 or 301-724-1544. She can make you a copy of the providers in our area.



Notice to Cumberland Housing Residents

Public Awareness Program Message Natural Gas Safety Instructions

Natural gas for your appliances is delivered through a jurisdictional natural gas pipeline system. The system is a safe, reliable and efficient way to deliver natural gas for your heating, water heating, cooking, and clothes drying needs. Although safe, tested and regulated, the system's most common hazard is from 3rd party damage from excavation. Before digging or excavations are done, contact Miss Utility at 1-800-257-7777 or 811 and call Cumberland Housing at 301-724-2055. Please read the following safety information:

Natural gas, like all forms of energy and like many other products found in the home, is capable of doing damage and MUST be used properly. Here are some facts everyone should know about gas and gas operated equipment:

Gas Accidents can be avoided when you follow these safety rules:

1. Teach children that they are not to turn on or light appliances
2. Keep combustibles (curtains, paper, and fluids) away from any open flames.
3. If lighting is required - always light match first and hold it at point of lighting before you turn on gas.
4. Keep burning surface clean of dirt, match ends, grease, etc.
5. Repair and installation is a job for experts. Never attempt to do it yourself.
6. Use equipment for the job it was intended to do - for example, an oven should NOT be used to heat a room.

Your senses can help you to discover a gas leak.....

- >SMELL: A distinctive odor has been added to natural gas so that less than 1% of gas in the air can be detected.
- >SIGHT: In some appliances you can see the flame so you know it is working.
- >TOUCH: With some appliances you can feel overheating or cold in the burner area which would indicate trouble.
- > HEARING: If the flame sounds unusually noisy, it may not be burning properly.

If you smell gas:

1. NO FLAMES OR SPARKS! – Immediately put out all smoking materials and pre-existing open flames. Do not operate lights, appliances, telephones or cell phones. Flames or sparks from these sources can trigger an explosion or fire.
2. LEAVE THE AREA IMMEDIATELY – Get everyone out of the building or area where you suspect gas is leaking.
3. REPORT THE LEAK – From a neighbor's home or other nearby building away from the gas leak, call your natural gas supplier right away. If you are unable to reach your natural gas supplier, call 911 or your local fire department.
4. DO NOT RETURN TO THE BUILDING OR AREA - Until your natural gas supplier determines that it is safe to do so.
5. GET YOUR SYSTEM CHECKED - Before you attempt to use any of your natural gas appliances, your natural gas supplier or a qualified service technician must check your entire system to ensure that it is leak free.

