



**CUMBERLAND HOUSING
GROUP**

Monthly Newsletter

For January 2024



Exterminator Schedule

2 nd Thursday of each month	Jane Frazier Rows 7 through 17 and Central Office
2 nd Friday of each month	Jane Frazier Rows 1 through 6 and Banneker Gardens
3 rd Thursday of each month	River Bend Court
3 rd Thursday – Every other Month	1034 Frederick Street Feb., April, June, August, October, December



2024

Preventive Maintenance Inspections

January 3 rd	Jane Frazier Village – Building 3
January 4 th	Jane Frazier Village – Building 7
January 9 th	River Bend Court – Building 1

*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.*

Rent and Utility Allowance Rate Schedule Effective February 1, 2024

The Housing Authority is required by HUD to annually review and adjust the flat rents and ceiling rents. Flat rents are designed to mirror the HUD Fair Market Rents (FMR's) for this area which are established annually by HUD based upon local rental amounts charged. HUD does provide us an exemption which allows us to set our rates at 80% of HUD's FMR's for this area.

The Rent and Utility Allowance Rate Schedule was approved by the Board on November 15, 2023. The Rate Schedule is posted in each development and on the website for review.

River Bend Court Office Hours 12:30 pm – 4:00 pm

Paperwork can be left in the drop box.
You can e-mail Shauna at

Shauna.Rabideau@cumberlandhousing.org

If you need to meet with Shauna for a morning appointment, you can call the office to schedule an appointment, **240-362-9225** or e-mail her.

Parking at River Bend Court

Parking is first come, first served. There is no assigned parking whether it is a handicap spot or regular parking space.

People fail to get along because they fear each other; they fear each other because they don't know each other; they don't know each other because they have not communicated with each other."

~Martin Luther King, Jr.~





**Boys and Girls Club
After School Program**

**Banneker Gardens
Community Room**

Monday thru Friday 3:30 pm – 6:00 pm

**Help with homework, games, crafts
and snacks are provided.**

FOOD GIVEAWAY!

January 17, 2024 Time: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

St. John's Lutheran Church.

**Located in the church parking lot.
400 Arch Street, Cumberland**

Hope Station Wellness & Recovery

Fresh Produce

January 26, 2024 at 10:00 am
until supplies last

Located at 632 N. Centre Street
For more information call
240-362-7168

COLA Increases for 2024

If you haven't already done so, please submit to the office all of your new Income statements for 2024. This includes all SS, SSI, SSDI, Widows Pension, other pensions, TDAP, raises from jobs, or other earnings.

STAY WARM

Conserve Energy by:

- Keep drapes & blinds open during the day on windows facing the sun so that any available sunshine will be absorbed indoors.
- At night, keep drapes and blinds closed and they will act as an insulator to keep heat inside and keep out chilly drafts.
- Do not open windows in cold weather,
- Do not block air registers with furniture and/or curtains.
- Kerosene heaters are **prohibited** by the HACC and the State Fire Marshal.
- Electric heaters will be permitted which have a safety control for tipping, a cut off when a certain temperature is reached, a control for the amount of time it stays on and are currently UL certified.
- Do not turn oven on to use for heat.

**All Christmas Decorations must be
taken down by January 15th.**

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 301-759-5093 or Maryland's Quit line at 1-800-784-8669.

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.

Crime Solvers Tip Line 301-722-4300

www.allegany-mineralcountycrimeslovers.com

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

**YMCA Play Group
River Bend Court Community Room**

January 9th at 10:30 am

Ages 5 and under!

Come have some fun.

**Judy Center Activities at
Jane Frazier Village**

**Toddler Playgroup
Ages 3 – 4 years old**

10 – 11 am

Every Tuesday

**Infant Playgroup
Age 0 – 18 months**

10 – 11 am

Every Thursday

Call to Register at 301-876-9022



**The Cumberland Housing Group wishes all residents,
maintenance, and staff a very Happy New Year!**

**Offices will be closed on Monday,
January 1, 2024!**

**Are offices will also be closed Monday, January 15th
For Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**



Facebook.com/cumberlandhousing

HEATING

All thermostats are set to operate in a 65 to 75-degree range regardless of who pays the utility bill. That is considered a properly operating heating system degree range. If the temperature in your rental unit is below 65 degrees or warmer than desired, notify the Maintenance Department at **301-724-2055** and your temperature control will be checked to see if it is operating correctly and adjusted as needed. **DO NOT**, under any circumstance, attempt to force the temperature control higher than the stop is set. This action will break the temperature control and you will get no heat until a new temperature control is installed. If you cause this to happen, you will be charged for the new temperature control and labor for installation.

If for any reason the tenant is unable to maintain sufficient heat, he/she shall immediately notify the CHG. The tenant shall be charged for all damages resulting from failure to maintain sufficient heat or failure to notify the CHG, except for causes beyond tenant's control. Tenant agrees to maintain sufficient heat to the dwelling unit to prevent freezing of piped water.

Note: Any call received by the CHG after normal working hours for the lack of heat in an apartment below 68 degrees, where it is determined by the maintenance staff person by using a temperature measuring device that the temperature is at or above 68 degrees, the tenant will be charged for the service call. The charge will be for time spent on the service call at the current maintenance overtime rate per hour including travel time per the most recently approved Schedule of Tenant Charges.

Kids Jokes

Q: What do you call cheese that's not yours?

A: Nacho cheese!

Q: What do elves learn in school?

A: The elf-abet.

Q: How do you smuggle candy into a movie theater?

A: With a few Twix up your sleeve.

Q: What do boats do when they are sick?

A: They go to the doc.

Q: Where do pencils go for vacation?

A: Pencil-vania.

Q: Why did the girl spread peanut butter on the road?

A: To go with the traffic jam!

Q: What do you call a fake spaghetti noodle?

A: An impasta!

Q: How do you make a Kleenex dance?

A: You put a little boogie in it.

Q: Who is the penguin's favorite aunt?

A: Aunt Artica.

Q: Why couldn't the pony sing himself a lullaby?

A: He was a little hoarse.

Winter Activities for to do with KIDS When it is too Cold to go Outside

Bake Brownies or Cookies

Make shapes out of paper

Get some friends together and have comedy show

Scavenger hunt

Read a book

Play Board Games or card games

Put puzzles together

Build a blanket fort

Do your mom's hair or let her do something different with your hair.

Play dress up

Clean out your closet

Make a Time Capsule. Grab a box and have the kids fill it with photos, drawings, treasurer. Find a place to hide the box in the house and get the box out in a few years.

