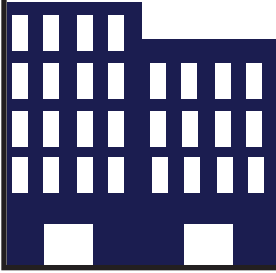


Seniors

The Hagerstown Housing Authority is committed to providing quality, affordable housing in a safe environment. Through partnership with our residents and other groups we will provide opportunities for those we serve to become self-sufficient.



July 2021



# Neighbors

To associate on neighborly terms ♦ To be friendly ♦ Persons who live near others



**Emergency Rental Assistance Program**  
Do you need assistance paying your rent, utility bills, and more?  
**APPLY TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY!**

Has COVID-19 affected your ability to pay rent?  
You may be eligible for assistance with current or past due payments.

How can ERAP (Emergency Rental Assistance Program) help?

**ERAP provides financial assistance for the following:**

- ⇒ Up to 12 months of overdue rent – going back to March 13, 2020
- ⇒ Up to 12 months of overdue utility or home energy costs – going back to March 13, 2020
- ⇒ Up to 3 months of current or future months’ rent at a time
- ⇒ Up to 3 months of current or future months’ utility costs at a time
- ⇒ Housing-related costs due to COVID-19 such as relocation assistance, security deposit, and rental application fees

Each household is eligible for up to 15 months of total assistance under ERAP.

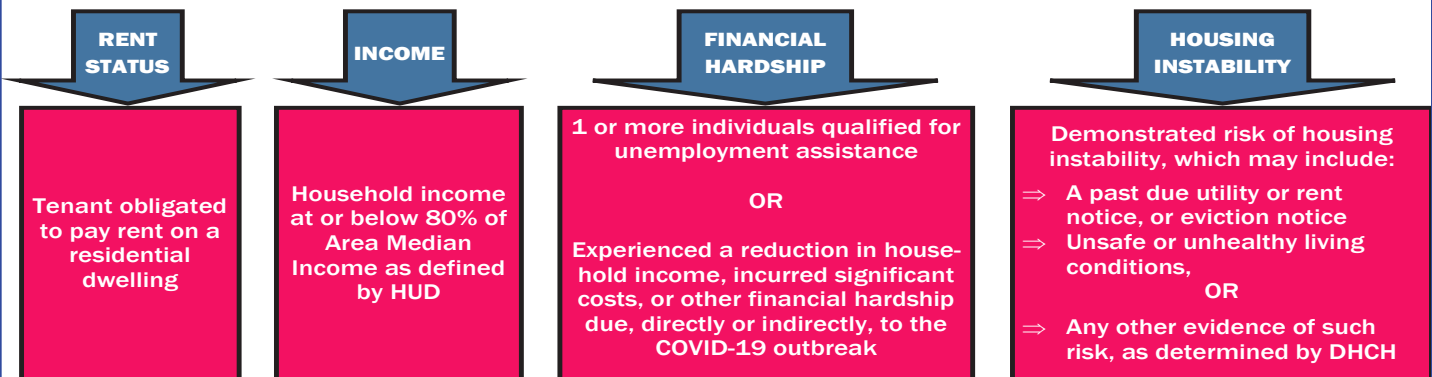
ERAP cannot pay for rental and utility costs which have been or will be covered under another funding source (no duplication of benefits).

The tenant may apply for assistance or their landlord may apply for assistance on the tenant’s behalf.

Tenants must sign the application and attest all information in the application is true.

**To be eligible for ERAP, a household must meet all four eligibility criteria:**

- ⇒ Legally obligated to pay rent or utility costs
- ⇒ Have annual household income under 80% of the Area Median Income for their county
- ⇒ Qualify for unemployment assistance OR have financial hardship directly or indirectly related to COVID-19
- ⇒ Be at risk of losing their housing or utilities, currently homeless, or need to relocate housing units due to unsafe, unsanitary, or overcrowded housing conditions





# July 2021 Pest Control Schedule

**Meals for Paws food donation drop will be on Friday July 30, 2021 between 9:00am-9:30am at Potomac Towers, Walnut Towers, & CW Brooks Building**

7/7/2021	PT: 701-708, 814-832	7/1/2021	WTB: 101-113
7/14/2021	PT: 801-813, 904-917	7/8/2021	WTB: 114-116, 201-210
7/21/2021	PT: 901-903, 1001-1017, 1111-1117	7/15/2021	WTB: 211-216, 301-307
7/28/2021	PT: 1101-1110, 1201-1217	7/22/2021	WTB: 308-316

## FREE CLASSES!

**Financial Education Partnership Washington County offers FREE monthly on-line classes to help members in our community take charge of their finances**

**July 21, 2021 Basics of Money Management 6pm-7pm**

**To register or for information, contact Kelli Tencer at 301-733-2371 ext. 107 or [kelli@reachofwc.org](mailto:kelli@reachofwc.org)**

**Please Join Us For Our New Informational Zoom Series:**

**Creating Community Connections**

**Thursday July 8, 2021 @ 2:00 pm**

**We welcome Paula Ernst, the Community Health Educator for the Washington County Health Department. She will be providing us with an overview of the Tobacco Free for Life Program.**

**We hope that you can join us for some FUN with the Resident Services Team and receive some useful INFORMATION from our Community Partners!**

**\*These events will be provided through Facebook Live on HHA Facebook Page\***

## Remember To Drink More Fluids In the Summer

Dehydration is a common and very serious condition for older adults. The best thing to do is try to prevent it from happening, but it's much easier said than done to increase your fluid intake! To help with this sometimes frustrating mission, we rounded up some creative tips!

### 1. Remember there are many sources of fluids

Remember you don't have to drink only plain water to get hydrated. Coffee, tea, fruit juice, sweetened beverages, fruits, and vegetables all contain water.

### 2. Keep water easily accessible

Keep water nearby. Try putting a lightweight pitcher of water and a cup near your favorite seat.

### 3. Experiment with beverages at different temperatures

You may prefer hot drinks to cold, or the other way around. Experiment to find out which type you like better. Try warming up juices, making decaf iced coffee, or adding soda water to make drinks bubbly.

### 4. Make popsicles

Homemade popsicles made from fruit juice or a mix of juice and water are a great summer treat. But they're also a great way to get fluids!

## VFF Produce

*Veterans, Faith, Farmers*



**High quality, locally grown fruits and vegetables at affordable price.**

**Cash, Credit and Snap Benefits accepted!**

**The Market will be open the first week of July at Potomac Towers & Walnut Towers. When the days & times are released they will be posted in your buildings on the bulletin boards in each lobby as well as on the Resident Portal.**

## Happy Fourth of July

The Hagerstown Housing Authority will be closed July 5th in observance of Independence Day

### Safe Summer Travel Tips

- Check travel restrictions & quarantine rules for your destination.
- Check airline policies before flying.
- Look up local guidelines for outdoor activities and follow them.
- When on or near water, everyone should wear a life jacket approved by US Coast Guard.
- Wear a hat with a wide brim and use sunscreen any time you are outside.

### HHA Smoking Policy Reminders

The term "smoking" means inhaling, exhaling, burning or carrying any lighted or heated cigar, cigarette, pipe, and include the use of any other tobacco product or plant product in any manner or in any form. Smoking also includes the use of an electronic cigarette. Resident and members of the Resident's household shall not smoke anywhere in the unit, including balconies, in the building where the Resident's dwelling is located, or in any of the common areas or adjoining grounds within 25 feet of the building. Residents are responsible to inform their visitors and guest of the Smoking Policy.

A breach of the Smoke Free Housing Lease Addendum is grounds for immediate termination of the Lease by the Housing Authority. Residents and their household/visitors/guests are responsible for proper disposal of their smoking material.



# FROM MAINTENANCE

## Installing Window Air Conditioners

When installing window air conditioners, be sure to install them in a safe and secure manner. Air conditioner units should be tilted away from the unit. This allows the condensate to run away from the wall and will help to prevent mold/mildew on the walls. The window air conditioner needs to be installed properly to prevent outside air from entering the unit. If the extendable panels are missing or damaged, air coming in from the outside will cause the room temperature to rise, keeping the air conditioner running. This can cause high electric bills. It is best to seal the openings with foam panels. Cardboard, pillows and blankets are inefficient as they can fall out leaving the window open.

According to the **Dwelling Lease Part II, under Exhibit G, Section I., F**, Residents of the high rise buildings must put a container under the air conditioner to collect any condensation and empty as needed. Do not empty containers over the balcony.

Failure to empty these containers could result in a follow-up visit from the maintenance department to correct the concern of overflow.

**There should be no items hanging from balconies! These items could fall causing harm to other residents or damage to building property.**

## Please DO NOT Feed the Birds.

We ask that you do not feed the birds on your balconies. Please do not throw bread, donuts or any other food out for the birds. This not only attracts birds but rodents as well. It also makes a mess on the balconies and areas below. We thank you for your cooperation.

## Summer Travel Plans?

### Prevent Bed Bugs When Traveling!

Over half of pest control providers say that they receive the most calls in the summer months


Why summer? There are more people traveling

during the summer due to summer vacations, so there is an increased likelihood that bed bugs will be introduced to hotels, airplanes, summer camps, and even places such as movie theatres and libraries – and that also increases the chances that people could take them home.

Bed bugs can infest anywhere there is a regular meal source – humans! – to feed on. While bed bugs don't spread disease, they can inflict itchy welts when they bite. A large percentage of the population, however, does not react to bed bug bites, making it less likely that someone could notice a problem and accidentally take them home with them. Bed bugs are excellent hitchhikers, and all it takes is one bed bug to hitch a ride on a bag or personal item for them to be introduced to a home.

If you (or a family member) are traveling this summer, you'll want to stay vigilant against bed bugs. With a few easy steps, you can prevent bed bugs from making their way into your home

- Place all luggage on non-upholstered furniture away from bed, such as a desk. Inspect for bed bugs
- Pull back corners of bedding, check mattress and box spring for bed bugs. Pay special attention to seams. If you notice black marks on the mattress, that could be an indication of a problem
- Inspect the night stand for signs of bed bugs
- Let front desk know if you believe your room or sleeping area has bed bugs
- When you return home, before bringing luggage inside, inspect for bedbugs.
- Before laundering clothing from vacation, place all your clothing in the dryer for 15 minutes even if you didn't wear them. Heat is a proven method of killing bed bugs.



While we want you to enjoy your 4th of July holiday, please note that no fireworks of any type are allowed to be set off on Housing Authority property.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated