

AMSTERDAM HOUSING AUTHORITY DECEMBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

Damaris G. Carbone, Executive Director

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Staff Contacts:

Main Office: 842-2894

Bob: Ext. 101

Teresa: Ext 102

Brenda: Ext 103

Tisha: Ext 104

Damaris: Ext 105

AHA Website and Email:

www.amsterdamhousingauthority.org

inquiry@amsterdamhousingauthority.org

Fraud

fraud@amsterdamhousingauthority.org

Office Address:

52 Division Street
Amsterdam, NY 12010

Maintenance Requests:

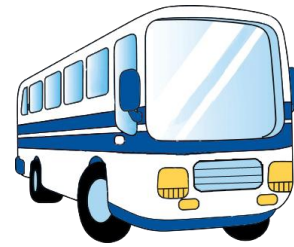
842-2894 (24 hours)

Police: 842-1100

Fire: 843-1312



*The Staff of the Amsterdam
Housing Authority wishes you and
your family a Merry Christmas
& a happy and healthy 2017!*



AHA Board Meeting

The next AHA Board Meeting will be on Wednesday, December 7th at 5:30 in the AHA main office board room.

Tenant Meeting

The next Tenant Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 20th at 10:30 in the Hi Rise Community Room...All tenants are encouraged to attend!

December 26th – Office closed for the Christmas Holiday



Notes from the Office

Office Hours

The AHA office closes at 4:00 pm for the day. You can still call the office at 842-2894 for any emergency work orders.

Rent Window

The rent window at the office is open Monday – Friday from 9:00 – 12:00 and from 12:30 – 2:30. If you are unable to come to the office during these hours, you can use the drop box located outside the main entry doors at 52 Division St., or the drop box located in the lobby of the Stratton building (by Bob’s office). If you put your rent payment in the drop box, please be sure to write your name and apartment number on it. If you want a receipt sent to you, please write a note on the envelope. Reminder...the office does not accept cash payments, all payments must be paid by check, money order or bank check.

Free Browns Bus

Browns bus offers free transportation to Price Chopper for our residents every Monday. Pick up is at both Stratton & Hi Rise at 9:00 am and the bus returns approximately 2 hours later.



Student Scholarship

NYS PHADA provides a scholarship of \$2,500 to one graduating high school student. One runner-up will be awarded a laptop computer. This scholarship is for high school seniors living in public or assisted housing at a NYS PHADA member agency. See the attached flyer for the eligibility information and application.



Update Telephone Numbers

If your telephone number changes, please provide the office of your new number. Also, please let us know if the telephone number of your emergency contact changes.



Smoking

We have received complaints that there are tenants smoking in their apartments on the weekends. Please remember that smoking on AHA property is a violation of your lease. There will be no smoking allowed in any of our buildings, apartments, or common spaces. Smoking out of an open apartment window is not allowed under any circumstances. Please be sure that your visitors comply with our no smoking policy.

If you are trying to quit smoking and need assistance, the NYS Smokers Quitline offers many resources and can be accessed anytime at www.nysmokefree.com or by calling 1-866-697-8487.



Complaints

All tenant complaints MUST be put in writing. The office will not address any issues unless we receive the complaint in writing. Complaint forms are available at the main office or in Bob's office at Stratton. If your complaint is regarding a criminal matter, please report it to the APD before coming to the office.

Garden Apartment Tenants

If your National Grid account number changes, you **must** notify the office. In situations where the Amsterdam Housing Authority pays a utility reimbursement for you directly to National Grid, if you do not update your account number with us, it will be applied to the account number that we have on file for you.



Income Changes

Reminder...you MUST report all changes in income to the office, including changes in employment/employer, increases or decreases in social security, SSI, child support, public assistance, etc. Do NOT wait until your annual recertification to report these changes, or you may be responsible for paying back rent if your tenant responsibility increased as a result of this change.



Snow Removal & Salt

AHA removes snow from roads, parking lots and major walkways after snowfalls. Tenants in the Garden Apartments are responsible for clearing the sidewalks, ramps and steps leading from their apartments to the main walkways. Salt is available for High Rise and Garden Apartment tenants at the rear entrance of the Hi Rise and for Stratton tenants by the Stratton lobby.





Elevators

When you are waiting for the elevator, please push only up if you are going up or down if you are going down. Pushing both buttons is causing problems with the elevators.

PLEASE DO NOT flush anything down the toilet other than toilet paper. The City of Amsterdam's Sewer Maintenance Department is requesting that all city residents be reminded that rubber gloves, paper towels, baby wipes, feminine products, cooking oils and other similar disposable products should NOT be disposed of by flushing them down their toilets. Due to the age and size of the City's Sanitary Sewer System, the above items are causing blockage problems in the Sanitary Sewer Mains and YOUR sanitary sewer laterals.

The Amsterdam Housing Authority is also asking the same of our tenants.



How to Avoid Telemarketing Phone Calls

The federal government National Do Not Call Registry is a free, easy way to reduce the telemarketing calls you get at home. To register your phone number or to get information about the registry, visit www.donotcall.gov, or call 1-888-382-1222 from the phone number you want to register. You will get fewer telemarketing calls within 31 days of registering your number. Telephone numbers on the registry will only be removed when they are disconnected and reassigned, or when you choose to remove a number from the registry.



Head Lice

Lice are tiny, wingless, parasitic insects that feed on your blood. Lice are easily spread – especially by schoolchildren – through close personal contact and by sharing belongings.

Head lice develop on your scalp. They’re easiest to see at the nape of your neck and over your ears.

Symptoms:

- Intense itching
- Tickling feeling from movement of hair
- Lice on your scalp, body, clothing. Adult lice may be about the size of a sesame seed or slightly larger
- Lice eggs (nits) on hair shafts. Nits can be mistaken for dandruff, but unlike dandruff, they can’t be easily brushed out of hair.
- Small red bumps on the scalp, neck and shoulders.

Usually you can get rid of lice by taking self-care steps that include using nonprescription shampoo that’s specifically formulated to kill lice. You should see your doctor if the nonprescription shampoo doesn’t kill the lice, if you’re pregnant or if you have any infected hives or skin abrasions from scratching.

How to avoid lice altogether.

Children and parents can take many steps to prevent getting head lice in the first place.

- Avoid head-to-head contact with others who may have head lice. Unfortunately, it is hard to tell whether somebody else has lice, so it

is best to avoid head-to-head contact with other children whenever possible.

- Avoid sharing clothing, hats, helmets, combs, or towels with others who may have head lice. This is especially common in daycare, schools, sporting activities, camps and sleepovers.
- Avoid sharing beds, bedding, pillows, couches, or chairs with others who may have head lice.



Absences from School...

Did you know that as early as elementary school students who have 2 absences from school per month are more likely to fall behind and less likely to graduate high school? Find more information at AbsencesAddUp.org



Blood Pressure Screening & Gentle Chair Yoga

Home health Care Partners will be providing monthly blood pressure screening and gentle chair yoga this month.

Wednesday, December 14th

10:00 Hi Rise Community Room

11:00 Stratton Community Room

