

AMSTERDAM HOUSING
AUTHORITY
FEBRUARY 2017 NEWSLETTER
Damaris G. Carbone, Executive Director



Staff Contacts:

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AHA Website and Email:

www.amsterdamhousingauthority.org
inquiry@amsterdamhousingauthority.org

Fraud

fraud@amsterdamhousingauthority.org

Office Address:

52 Division Street
Amsterdam, NY 12010

Maintenance Requests:

842-2895 (24 hours)

Police: 842-1100

Fire: 843-1312

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AHA Board Meeting

The next AHA Board Meeting will be on Wednesday, February 15th at 5:30 in the AHA main office board room.

Tenant Meeting

The next Tenant Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 14th at 10:30 in the Hi Rise Community Room...All tenants are encouraged to attend!

February 13th – office closed for Lincoln’s Birthday

February 20th – Office closed for President’s Day



Notes from the Office

Office Hours

The AHA office closes at 4:00 pm for the day. You can still call 842-2895 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.

Public Housing Applications

Effective December 1, 2016, applications for Family & Senior Housing will be accepted online only. Our online application can be found on our website www.amsterdamhousingauthority.org any individual or family that is income and/or age eligible will be placed on the waiting list according to the date and time the application is received online. The Office for the Aging can help any senior who may need assistance completing the online application.



New City Bus Schedule

A copy of the new city bus schedule was attached to the January Newsletter, you will also find it posted on the bulletin boards in lobby of the HR & SA, and in the lobby by the office.



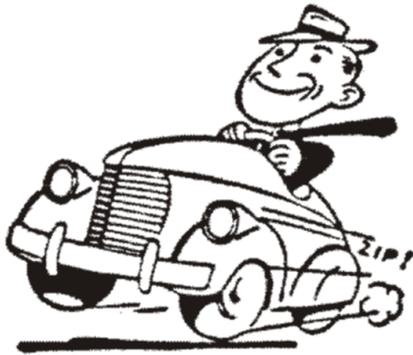
Hi Rise & Stratton Christmas Decorations

If you decorated the hallways, please remove the decorations and put them away until next year.



Hi Rise Tenants

If you have an assigned parking space, you must park in the space that was assigned to you. Tenants cannot change spaces with other tenants or tell another tenant that they can have their parking space. All parking spaces are assigned by the office. We have a waiting list for assigned parking spaces in the Hi Rise. If you have an assigned parking space and are parking on the street instead of using your space, we will have to reassign your space. Those who are on the waiting list are having difficulty finding a parking space on the street because some tenants with assigned spaces are not using them. If you no longer need your assigned parking space or if you no longer have a car, please notify the office as soon as possible so we can reassign your space.



Overnight Guests

Please be aware of a change to our lease which was revised November 2016. All tenants will sign the revised lease at the time of their annual recertification or at the time of transfer to another unit.

The Tenant may not have overnight guests in the leased premises for more than 14 days each year unless prior written request is made by the Tenant to Management and permission is granted to Tenant by Management.

Also, please remember that you are responsible for the behavior of your guests. You will be responsible for the repair of any damages caused by your guests to the dwelling unit, project buildings,

facilities or common areas. Your guest must act in a manner which does not disturb other residents' peaceful enjoyment of their accommodations. Children who are visiting must always be supervised in common areas.



The Care of Your Apartment

A clean home is something to be proud of. The AHA encourages tenants to take pride in their homes by maintaining them in a clean and sanitary condition. Tenants are responsible for keeping their apartments free from excess clutter or other fire hazards. AHA has a policy by which it can evict a tenant who does not cooperate in keeping their apartment a clean and safe place to live.



Smoking

We are still receiving complaints that tenants are smoking in their apartments, especially in the evenings and on weekends when the office is closed. **Smoking is NOT allowed on AHA property including inside your apartment.** Please understand that the smoke travels through the ventilation system and other residents can smell your smoke in their apartments. Smoking inside your apartment is a violation of your lease.

Office for the Aging

Tenants often call us asking for the number for The Office for the Aging...their phone number is 843-2300, and they are located at 135 Guy Park Ave. right across from Dollar General. They are open Monday – Friday from 8:00 – 3:30.



Reminder...The new phone number strictly dedicated for work orders is (518) 842-2895.

When you call for a work order after hours you no longer have to listen for the prompts. The call will automatically go to whomever is on call that day. As always, if you are calling in a work order after hours it must be an emergency.

Reminder...Salt is available for High Rise and Garden tenants at the rear entrance of the Hi Rise and for Stratton tenants by the Stratton Lobby.



The top three ways to avoid fraud...

1. **Hang up on robocalls.** If you pick up the phone and hear a recorded sales pitch, hang up. Don't press 1, 2 or any other number to get off a list or speak to a person. That just means you'll get even more calls.
2. **Don't trust your caller ID.** Scammers can make caller ID look like anyone is calling: the IRS, a business or government office...even your own phone number. If they tell you to pay money for any reason, or ask for your financial account numbers, hang up. If you think the caller might be legitimate, call back to a number that you know is genuine – NOT the number that the caller gave you.
3. **Talk to someone.** Before you give up money or information, talk to someone you trust. Scammers want you to make decisions in a hurry. Slow down, check out the story, search online – or just tell a family member or friend. Those who talk to someone are much less likely to fall for a scam.





Preventing Falls

Falls are the #1 cause of injuries in seniors, resulting in fractures, cuts and head injuries. The risk for falls requiring emergency room care increases with age. Each year, 2.5 million people ages 65 and older are treated in emergency departments because of falls, according to the CDC. Most falls occur in the home, where tripping hazards include area rugs and slippery bathroom & kitchen floors.

Fall prevention starts with creating a safe living space. You can make your home safe from falls with just a few basic changes.

1. **Clean up clutter.** The easiest method for preventing falls is to keep your home neat and tidy.
2. **Remove tripping hazards.** Look for items such as loose carpet, slippery throw rugs & electrical cords. Move, remove or replace those items for more effective fall prevention.
3. **Wear shoes.** Socks may be comfortable, but they present a slipping risk. Preventing falls at home can be as simple as wearing shoes. You can also purchase non-slip socks that have grips

on the soles of the feet if shoes are too uncomfortable.

4. **Make it nonslip.** Bathtubs and showers as well as kitchen & bathroom floors can become slippery when wet. Consider using nonslip mats in those areas.

For the elderly, fall prevention means injury prevention. Ask your loved ones to help you ensure that your rooms are clutter-free and well-equipped with lighting, grab bars, and nonslip mats to help you avoid falling – all of which can go a long way toward keeping you safe in your home.

