



AMSTERDAM HOUSING AUTHORITY

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PARTICIPANT NEWSLETTER

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Zero-Income Family Interim Re-examination

The Housing Authority is required to follow up with families reporting zero income until they establish monthly income to cover housing costs. An interim re-examination will be scheduled for families with zero income every 3 months until income has been established, up to once per quarter. After verification documentation is submitted, the Housing Authority will re-assess the tenant's monthly rental portion to reflect this change in income. Families claiming to have zero income may undergo a credit review. The information contained in the credit report will be used to confirm the information provided by the family. Additionally, the Housing Authority may utilize records provided by other departments and agencies that have information about income sources of participants to confirm information provided by a family claiming to have zero income.

Bed Bugs and Prevention

About the bed bug: When fighting, it is good to know your enemy. Bed bugs are reddish-brown, flattened, oval and wingless. They feed exclusively on warm-blooded animals—like humans. Bed bugs are hardy insects: They are able to survive without feeding or a year. In humans, bed bugs bites may cause skin rashes, psychological effects and allergic symptoms. Rental premises may become infested with bed bugs in a variety of ways, including: entering the premises on pets, clothing, luggage, furniture, or wild animals such as rodents, bats or birds; arriving via duct work or other routes from nearby dwellings. “Bed bugs” earned their name thanks to their proclivity for living in mattresses, box springs and bed frames. For this reason, reference to bed bugs are a common nighttime adage: “Sleep tight; don’t let the bed bugs bite!”. Nevertheless, bed bugs are not limited to bedrooms and may live anywhere in a home, including furniture, curtains and wallpaper. Frustratingly, bed bugs are known to be elusive and nocturnal. They are best detected by their bites as well as fecal spots and blood smears on bed sheets.



Landlord responsibility for bed bug eradication: the law. The legal duty of a landlord to exterminate bed bugs is dependent on the law in the jurisdiction in which the rental premises are located. Many states and municipalities, under housing codes and health codes, require landlords to ensure the rental premises are free of pests—including rodents and insects—which, of course, includes bed bugs.

To be continued on the back...

