



HALSTEAD HOUSING AUTHORITY

In the Neighborhood Quarterly Newsletter 1st Quarter Edition

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**EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY**

FIRE SAFETY

According to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) *half of home heating fires occur between the months of December, January, and February.*



Beware of Space Heaters

Don't put space heaters near curtains, or other fabrics. Make sure the space heaters you buy have automatic shut-offs



Kitchen Fire Prevention

Water doesn't help grease fire. Use baking soda for pan fires. Keep lids handy to put on top of pots and pans that get too hot.



Know Escape Routes

Windows and doors should be accessible and unblocked.



Fire Extinguishers Can Save Lives

Store one under the kitchen sink, and in the hall closet near the bedrooms. Make sure you use the correct type: **A** for paper, wood and trash; **B** for grease and flammable liquids; **C** for small electrical fires.



Beware of Candles

Light candles only when you are around to watch them.

SOCIAL SECURITY LETTERS

Please bring any 2016 Social Security Benefit letters to the office so that we can make a copy for your file. We still need a copy even if the letter does not contain actual amounts and states there will be no change.

RENT PAYMENT METHODS

Tenants may choose to pay rent using any of the following methods:

- Cash
- Money Order
- Check
- Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT)

The Housing Authority does not accept payment by credit or debit card. Please only use the drop box for check or money order payments. EFT payments may only be set up on a re-occurring monthly basis.

CHRISTMAS BREAKFAST



The Christmas Breakfast held on Wed. December 9th was a huge success! We served a total of 30 people. Most tenants stayed to eat while others had meals delivered to them. Tenants from Cottonwood Acres, Meadowlark, and Sunflower all enjoyed visiting while sharing a meal together. Board Member Jim Loflin and his wife Lois were also present. Thank you for coming and celebrating with us! The staff of the Halstead Housing Authority appreciates all of you!

Save the Date!



Important Dates to Remember!



HHA RESIDENT ADVISORY BOARD (RAB) SEEKING NEW MEMBERS The RAB recently lost a few members. If you would like more information please contact a current member or the office.

Put this page on your fridge for easy reference

January

- **Fri. Jan. 1** HOLIDAY - Office Closed (**HAPPY NEW YEAR**)
- **Wed. Jan. 20** Board Meeting – HHA Office 3-4 pm
- **Tue. Jan. 26** Maintenance Inspections – Cottonwood Acres
- **Wed. Jan. 27** Maintenance Inspections & **FILTER CHANGES** – Meadowlark
- **Thur. Jan. 28** Maintenance Inspections & **FILTER CHANGES** - Sunflower

February

- **Wed. Feb. 10** Tenant/Staff Meeting – 9 am Cottonwood Community Room
- **Wed. Feb. 17** Board Meeting – HHA Office 3-4 pm
- **Thur.-Fri. 25-26** Nikki Vacation Days (*Nikki will be at a retreat in Garden City*)

March

- **Thur. - Fri. 3-4** Nikki Vacation Days (*Nikki will be at a retreat in Garden City*)
- **Wed. March 16** Board Meeting - HHA Office 3-4 pm
- **TBA** Cottonwood Filter Changes

Dates not posted in newsletter will be posted on HHA Facebook page or office door

Maintenance Inspections – JANUARY 2016

We will be conducting the **PROJECT WIDE** maintenance inspection this January. A notification letter will be posted soon. The letter will explain the inspection procedures for tenants as this inspection is the most detailed & intrusive of inspections. During the inspection, we will be opening all windows and doors as well as turning on/off all equipment & appliances in the apartment. We will be testing the GFCI outlets, emergency pull cords, water faucets, & toilets. We will be opening cabinets under sinks to inspect condition. Please make sure all windows and doors are accessible for the inspection.

Quarterly Quote

“Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every New Year find you a better man.”
-- Benjamin Franklin



**NEW RULE PROPOSED BY HUD OFFICE of ASSISTANT SECRETARY
REQUIRING SMOKE-FREE PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCIES:**

This proposed rule would require each public housing agency (PHA) administering public housing to implement a smoke-free policy. Specifically, this rule proposes that no later than 18 months from the effective date of the final rule, each PHA must implement a policy prohibiting lit tobacco products in all living units, indoor common areas in public housing, and in PHA administrative office buildings (in brief, a smoke free policy for all public housing indoor areas). The smoke-free policy must also extend to all outdoor areas up to 25 feet from the housing and administrative office buildings. HUD proposes implementation of smoke-free public housing to improve indoor air quality in the housing, benefit the health of public housing residents and PHA staff, reduce the risk of catastrophic fires, and lower overall maintenance costs.

Comment Due Date: January 19, 2016. Interested persons are invited to submit comments regarding this proposed rule. All communications must refer to the docket number and title (highlighted below). There are two methods for submitting public comments:

1. Submission of Comments by Mail. Comments may be submitted by mail to the Regulations Division, Office of General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, 451 7th Street SW., Room 10276, Washington, DC 20410-0500.

2. Electronic Submission of Comments. Interested persons may submit comments electronically through the Federal eRulemaking Portal at www.regulations.gov.

HUD strongly encourages commenters to submit comments electronically. Electronic submission of comments allows the commenter maximum time to prepare and submit a comment, ensures timely receipt by HUD, and enables HUD to make comments immediately available to the public. Comments submitted electronically through the www.regulations.gov Web site can be viewed by other commenters and interested members of the public. Commenters should follow the instructions provided on that site to submit comments electronically. **Note:** To receive consideration as public comments, comments must be submitted through one of the two methods specified above. **Again, all submissions must refer to the docket number and title of the rule.**

Docket No. FR 5597-P-02] RIN 2577-AC97 Instituting Smoke-Free Public Housing

Facsimile (fax) comments are not acceptable.

www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/11/17/2015-29346/instituting-smoke-free-public-housing

OCCUPANCY – 4th QTR / ANNUAL

Cottonwood = 93 % Annual

October = 96%

November = 92%

December = 88%

92%QTR

Meadowlark = 98% Annual

October = 100%

November = 94%

December = 94%

96%QTR

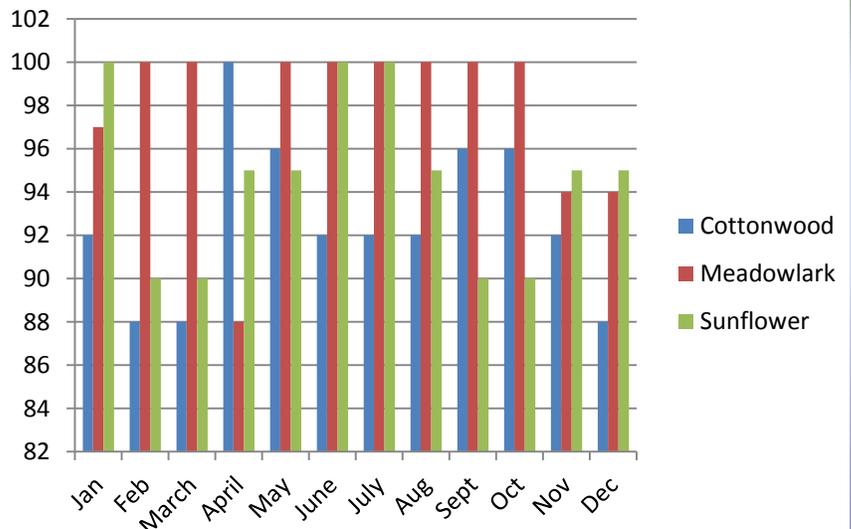
Sunflower = 95% Annual

October = 90%

November = 95%

December = 95%

94%QTR



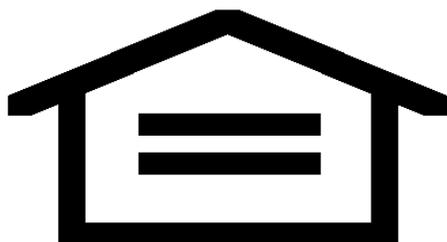
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**EQUAL HOUSING
OPPORTUNITY**

Access us on the web!

Tenants can send us messages (privately) on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/HalsteadHousingAuthority>

OR

View upcoming dates/events, place maintenance requests, or get apartment tours on-line:

<https://www.halsteadhousingauthority.com>



Breakfast Before Casserole

From: Norma Suarez

Refrigerate Overnight

Preheat Oven: 350°

Cook: 45 minutes

Yield: 12-15 Servings

Ingredients:

- 2 lbs. Bulk Pork Sausage
- 5 slices White Bread (Cubed)
- 2 c. Cheddar Cheese (Grated)
- 12 Eggs (Beaten)
- 4 c. Milk
- 1 tsp. Dry Mustard

Salt & Pepper to taste

Directions:

Fry sausage and drain. Layer bread cubes, cheese, and sausage in large pan (may use jelly roll pan but Norma uses a 9x13). Beat eggs and milk together with seasonings. Pour over the layers of bread, cheese, and sausage

Refrigerate Overnight

Bake at 350° for approximately 45 minutes. Cover your pan in refrigerator overnight! Bake uncovered. **ENJOY!**