



# NEWS AND NEIGHBORS

Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority

July 2023

Volume 30, Issue 7

## HOLIDAYS OBSERVED DURING THE MONTH OF JULY

July 4

Independence Day



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Carver Memorial Presbyterian Church  
830 25th Street  
Newport News, VA 23607

June 20 - August 4, 2023

Monday - Friday

Breakfast: 9:00 am - 9:30 am

Lunch: 12 noon - 12:45 pm

Youth only!

Virginia Peninsula Foodbank (No meals on July 4th)

## REAC INSPECTIONS – COVID-19 UPDATES AND INFO



- ✓ HUD resumed inspection operations in June 2021.
- ✓ HUD worked closely with the CDC and stakeholders to develop flexible protocols which included a 28-day notification period to property management before an inspection.
- ✓ Residents may opt out of having their unit inspected and an alternate unit will be selected.

### RESIDENT CONCERNS

- ✓ Residents should communicate COVID-19 health or related concerns to their property representative. An alternative unit will be selected for inspection.
- ✓ The inspector and property representative will practice safe distancing and wear personal protective equipment (PPE) consistent with CDC guidance.
- ✓ Residents who are home may elect to leave or stay in the unit during the inspection.

### PROPERTY CONCERNS

- ✓ PHAs/Owners & Agents may communicate COVID-19 related concerns at the 28, 14, and 2-day notification intervals.
- ✓ If you have any additional questions, please coordinate with your inspector or you may reach out to REAC's Technical Assistance Center (TAC) at 888-245-4860.
- ✓ PHAs/Owners & Agents may reference the REAC Inspector Notice No. 2020-01 for additional detail:  
<https://www.hud.gov/sites/dfiles/PIH/documents/COVID19InspectorProtocolNotice2021-01.pdf>

### REQUESTS TO POSTPONE

- ✓ All requests to postpone inspection must be communicated to the Technical Assistance Center (TAC): 888-245-4860.
- ✓ REAC works with properties and inspectors to analyze postponement requests on a case-by-case basis, balancing COVID-19 conditions with the risks of not inspecting.
- ✓ REAC will coordinate with Multifamily and Public Housing leadership to ensure it evaluates all relevant factors.
- ✓ On the day of the inspection, the inspector is required to report to the Technical Assistance Center property-level COVID cases.

[https://www.hud.gov/program\\_offices/public\\_indian\\_housing/reac](https://www.hud.gov/program_offices/public_indian_housing/reac)



## **BECOME A HOMEOWNER WITH AMERICA'S BEST MORTGAGE**

- No Down payment
- No Closing Costs
- No Fees
- Below Market Fixed Rate
- No Perfect Credit Needed

# **FREE HOMEBUYER WORKSHOP**

**Take the First Step towards Homeownership**

### **NEXT NACA WORKSHOP:**

SATURDAY, JULY 08, 2023  
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Brittingham-Midtown Community Center  
570 McLawhorne Drive  
Newport News, VA 23601

**TO SIGN UP, GO TO: WWW.NACA.COM OR CALL TOLL FREE: 425-602-6222**

For complete information visit: [www.NACA.com](http://www.NACA.com)

Visit [www.naca.com](http://www.naca.com) for state specific licensing information NMLS #4082 ([www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org](http://www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org))

**NACA, Neighborhood Assistance Corporation of America, is a national non-profit community homeownership and community advocacy organization. NACA provides the Best Mortgage in America with over 13 Billion committed by Bank of America and CitiMortgage to this incredible mortgage. NACA's housing subsidiary NSC, is the largest HUD certified organization providing about 25% of the total counseling in the country.**



# Peninsula Agency on Aging

## 2023 SENIOR COOL CARE PROGRAM

*Helping seniors stay cool!*

**Eligibility required to receive a box fan or AC unit:**

- Must be 60 years of age or older
- Must need additional cooling in the home
- Must meet household income requirements
  - Less than \$1,823 per month for 1 person
  - Less than \$2,465 per month for 2 people



*\*Program sponsored by Dominion Energy*

- Newport News • Hampton • Poquoson
  - York County • Williamsburg • James City County
- 757.873.0541**      **www.paa-inc.org**



Linking Seniors & Services since 1974



Communications Office  
Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles  
Post Office Box 27412  
Richmond, Virginia 23269



## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: May 30, 2023

Contact: Jessica Cowardin

(804) 367-6834

[jessica.cowardin@dmv.virginia.gov](mailto:jessica.cowardin@dmv.virginia.gov)

### **Bicycle-Involved Crashes on the Rise in Virginia**

*National Bicycle Safety Month is a reminder to look out for each other on Virginia's roads*

RICHMOND – In recognition of National Bicycle Safety Month, the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is reminding Virginians, both bicyclists and motorists, to look out for each other on the road.

So far this year, there have been 160 bicycle-involved crashes on Virginia's roadways, resulting in the deaths of nine bicyclists and injuries to 156 others. This is an 125% increase in bicyclist related fatalities compared to four last year at this time.

"Cyclists are some of our most vulnerable road users. We all share the responsibility of keeping them safe," said DMV Commissioner Gerald Lackey, the Governor's Highway Safety Representative. "Looking out for each other is key. Be visible and predictable as a cyclist, and respect bike lanes and pass with care as a motorist."

#### Tips for Bicyclists:

- Always wear a properly-fitted helmet.
- Check your bike equipment before heading out.
- Ride in the same direction as traffic.
- Obey traffic signs, signals, and lane markings.
- Wear equipment to protect you and make you more visible to others.

#### Tips for Motorists:

- Pass bicyclists on the road with care; allow at least three feet clearance.
- Look for bicyclists before opening a car door or pulling out from a parking space.
- Yield to bicyclists at intersections and as directed by signs and signals.
- Look for bicyclists before making turns, either left or right.
- Respect designated bicycle lanes; don't use them for parking, passing or turning.

Both cyclists and drivers should practice defensive driving by staying focused and alert to the road and all surrounding traffic. Anticipating what others may do, before they do it, allows you to better avoid a potential crash.

# Outdoor Grilling Safety Rules



- Electric Grills are still allowed for both indoor and outdoor usage.
- Propane Grills, Dual Fuel grills and Propane Turkey Fryers **are not permitted**.
- Outdoor charcoal, hibachi and wood pellet grills are permitted.
- Grills must be used at a minimum distance of 10 to 15ft away from any structure.
- Using grills on the sidewalks is prohibited.
- Grills **cannot** be left unattended at any time while in operation.
- Dumping coals and ash from the grill onto the grass or pavement is **strictly prohibited**.
- Never, under any circumstances, should lighter fluid or matches be left unattended.
- Tenants are responsible for the clean-up of any grease, ash coals and food that spills.
- Accumulated debris from the grill is to be wrapped in aluminum foil and place in trash receptacles after cooling.
- Any tenant that fails to properly clean spills and accumulated debris will incur a fine of \$25.00.
- **Storage of Outdoor Charcoal, Hibachi and Wood Pellet Grills**
  - ✓ Outdoor grills can be stored in the back of each housing unit when not in use.
  - ✓ Outdoor grills can be stored in units in a clean and orderly manner, not blocking passageways and egresses and not in the utility closet.
  - ✓ Any unit that fails to properly store a grill will be fined \$25.00.
  - ✓ No storing of Lighter Fluids.
  - ✓ Grills cannot be stored in the front of an apartment.

**NNRHA** does not waive any liability for any unsafe practices. If you have any questions please call your rental office.



ATTENTION!

# THE FAMILY INVESTMENT CENTER HAS MOVED FROM RIDLEY TO MARSHALL COURTS RECREATION CENTER

Same great training opportunities... come to  
our new location.

## FREE TRAINING PROGRAMS

The Family Investment Center offers free training in the following courses:

CNA;  
Self-Paced Typing;  
Employability Skills Workshops;  
Resume and Interviewing Prep;  
Job Lead Assistance;  
Homeownership.

*Call 757-928-3680 if you have  
questions*

## PROGRAMA LIBRE DE INSTRUCCION

Centro de Trabajo Para la Familia ofrece los Cursos que sigue:

- Mecanografia;
- Habilidades de obrero;
- Ayuda consu resumen y su entrevista;
- Como se encuentra trabajo;
- Como encontrar y poseer una casa.

Centro de Trabajo  
Para La Familia

Lunes - Viernes  
8 de le mana - 4:40 de la tarde

757.928.3680 ingles  
757.928.6146 espanol

Same great training opportunities...  
come to our new location

## The Family Investment Center

~ NEW LOCATION ~

Marshall Courts Recreation Center  
3301 Marshall Avenue•Newport News, VA  
Monday thru Friday  
8:00 am – 4:30 pm  
757.928.3680







# NEWPORT NEWS FIRE DEPARTMENT

## MATURE ADULTS FIRE & FALL SAFETY



SUMMER 2023

**Home. It's where most of us feel the safest, yet it's also where most fires and injuries occur. Those aged 65+ face the greatest risk of dying in a fire. Thankfully, there is much that can be done to stay safe as you remain independent and in your own home.**

### FIRE SAFETY TIPS

Today's home fires burn faster and hotter than they did over 50 years ago, and that's mostly due to lightweight construction materials, open floor plans, and synthetic materials. Smoke is the most dangerous part of a fire as it kills more people than fire. You also have **about 2 minutes** to safely escape your home from the time the smoke alarm sounds.

Here are some fire safety tips to talk about with your family:

- If you smoke, smoke outside-wet cigarette butts and ashes before throwing them out or bury them in sand
- **Stay in the kitchen when cooking**-if you leave the kitchen, turn off the burner; if the pan catches fire, slide a lid over it and turn off the burner, then leave the pan alone-**DO NOT USE WATER**
- **Smoke alarms save lives**-install smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside each bedroom and outside each sleeping area
- **Plan and practice your home escape plan**-have 2 ways out of every room in your home; make sure windows and doors open easily

### FALL SAFETY TIPS

While falls are common, they don't have to be a normal part of aging. 1 in 3 older adults will have a fall sending 1 in 17 to the emergency room. Even if you are not injured in a fall, you may develop a fear of falling, as the first fall doubles your chances of a second fall.

Here are some fall safety tips to talk about with your family and begin practicing:

- **Keep stairs, pathways and walking areas clear;** always use handrails if available
- **Take your time**-get out of chairs slowly; sit a moment before you get out of bed; stand and get your balance before you walk
- **Use non-slip mats and grab bars;** non-slip mats increase safety inside and outside of tubs and shower; install grab bars next to toilet, bathtub and shower
- Improve lighting in your home-**use night lights or a flashlight** to light the path between bedroom and bathroom; turn on lights before using stairs
- **Be aware of uneven surfaces**-always smooth out wrinkles/folds in carpeting; always use handrails, and step carefully

### **DON'T FORGET**

- **Test your smoke alarm monthly**
- **Make and practice your home escape plan**
- **Keep your medication list and emergency contacts current**



# General Overtime Guidelines

Maintenance staff will respond to the following calls:

1. Gas Leaks;
2. Electrical Problems;
3. Smoke Detector;
4. Power Outages (only at Pinecroft, Ashe Manor, Spratley House, Ridley and Marshall);
5. No Heat between 5:00 p.m. on Friday and 8:00 am on Sunday or holidays if the next day is a working day. If the next day is not a working day, accepts calls until 6:00 p.m.
6. Floods and Sewer Problems;
7. Broken Windows;
8. Collapsed ceiling or damaged roofs;
9. Commode stopped up (if two in apartment hold to next day if that is a normal business day);
10. Lock Out/Lock Change;
11. Damaged Exterior Doors;
12. Fire.

Note to Residents: If you believe the situation can wait until the next day, call first thing in the morning.

## TENANT COUNCIL MEETINGS

Aqueduct	Last Thursday Each Month	10:00 am Gymnasium
Ashe Manor	3rd Thursday Each Month	1:30 pm Community Room
Brighton	3rd Tuesday Each Month	2:00 pm Community Center
Cypress Terrace	2nd Tuesday Each Month	11:00 am Community Center
Great Oak	3rd Thursday Each Month	2:00 pm Community Center
Jefferson Brookville	3rd Thursday Each Month	3:30 pm - Jefferson Brookville Community Room
Lassiter Courts	2nd Thursday Each Month	3:30 pm Community Room
Marshall Courts	3rd Thursday Each Month	2:00 pm Recreation Center
Orcutt Townhomes I	4th Thursday Each Month	10:00 am - Ashe Manor Com- munity Room
Orcutt Townhomes III	4th Thursday Each Month	1:30 pm - Ashe Manor Com- munity Room
Oyster Point	3rd Tuesday Each Month	11:00 am Community Room
Pinecroft	1st Monday Each Month	3:00 pm Lobby
Spratley House	2nd Wednesday Community Room	3:00 pm Community Room

# Manager's Corner

## Requested Work Orders

### Public Housing

Marshall Courts	(757) 928-6154
Ashe Manor	(757) 928-6187
Aqueduct	(757) 833-5700
Pinecroft	(757) 269-4300
Orcutt townhomes I	(757) 928-6187



- Marshall (757) 928-6181

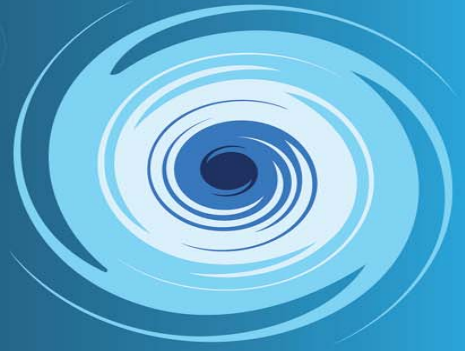
### Tax Credit Properties

Oyster Point	(757) 269-4307
Brighton	(757) 591-3280
Cypress Terrace	(757) 833-5720
Orcutt Townhomes III	(757) 928-6187
Lassiter Courts	(757) 928-2690
Great Oak	(757) 592-7448
Jefferson Brookville	(757) 928-2690
Spratley House	(757) 928-6187

**\*USE ONLY AS AN ALTERNATE NUMBER**

**Please use this number ONLY after 5:00 pm  
(757) 247-0484**

# Ready for HURRICANE SEASON? 5 things to do now.



## Sign up for alerts and warnings in your area.

Public [safety officials use systems](#) to alert you about severe weather and disasters.



## Make sure everyone knows the safest place in your home.

But first, [prepare your home](#), [check that](#) your insurance is up to date, and choose an out-of-town contact. Plan for your [pets](#), too.



## Secure important documents.

Gather [important papers](#) in a waterproof “Grab and Go” box. Keep it handy.



## Have an evacuation plan.

COVID-19 may affect your community’s plans. Check with local officials for [shelter locations](#). Have a go-bag ready with hand sanitizer, masks, medications, and other essentials.



## Stay in the know.

Bookmark [ftc.gov/weatheremergencies](https://www.ftc.gov/weatheremergencies). If a hurricane affects you, check back for tips on recovery and information about your rights.



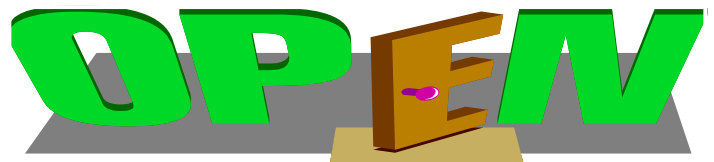
FEDERAL TRADE  
COMMISSION

[ftc.gov/weatheremergencies](https://www.ftc.gov/weatheremergencies)



## MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority (NNRHA) is to create affordable housing, viable neighborhoods, and opportunities for self-sufficiency that enhance the quality of life for all citizens of Newport News.



The waiting list for housing assistance at the Warwick SRO is open for single room occupancy only.

Please call (757) 928-6060, Monday-Friday, from 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. to schedule an appointment.

# Coronavirus: Keeping you informed

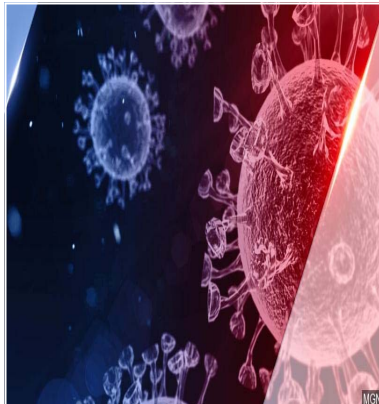
## Coronavirus Update from the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank

During times of crisis, the Foodbank plays an important role in meeting community needs. In response to the coronavirus, the Virginia Peninsula Foodbank has been working to provide food to people who might otherwise go hungry.

The Foodbank's Mobile Food Pantry Program is distributing food in high-traffic spots across the peninsula and they are working with partner agencies to ensure people receive the food they desperately need. The team from the Foodbank's Culinary Training Program is preparing breakfast and lunch grab-and-go bags for children throughout our local area. The Foodbank has also hosted several large-scale public food distribution events to help individuals and families struggling to locate healthy meals. During a distribution event in Newport News last week, they provided food to support 500 households.

If you are struggling to get the food you and your family need, please visit the Get Help page on the Foodbank's website to locate a mobile food pantry or partner agency that can help. Please call prior to visiting to confirm hours of operation, as distribution plans change quickly and without much notice.

Due to the increased demand for food in grocery stores, the Foodbank has seen a significant decrease in food pick-ups and store donations, which means personal donations are even more important. You can still drop food donations off at their Hampton headquarters at 2401 Aluminum Avenue. All donations are quarantined for 72 hours before they are available to be distributed. You can make a monetary donation to help purchase truckloads of supplies, donate through YouGiveGoods or purchase through online retailers to ship items directly to the Foodbank's doors. For additional information on any of these options, you can contact Tracy Hansbrough at [thansbrough@hrfoodbank.org](mailto:thansbrough@hrfoodbank.org).



### NEWPORT NEWS HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Call center is open 8 AM - 6 PM

Please call 757•594•7069

If you have questions about where to

get tested if you are experiencing

COVID-19 symptoms.



We encourage you to self-report illness or quarantine if you are not feeling well. This will prevent spreading the COVID 19 virus to your loved ones and friends.



## REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE



We all know the heartache and devastation that drugs can bring to our families.

If you or anyone you know and love is affected by substance abuse help is available.

Program Name	Services	Payment
<b>Tidewater Area Hot Line</b> 459-8467	Narcotics Anonymous	No fees
<b>Narcotics Anonymous VA Regional Hot Line</b> 1-800-777-1515	Support group for recovering substance abusers.	No fees
<b>Hampton Roads Clinic Reflections</b> 827-8430	Outpatient Counseling I.V. Methadone Maintenance 30-45 day Residential Facility	Sliding fee Scale Medicaid
<b>Project Link</b> 245-0217	Case management and coordination services for prenatal abuser	Sliding fee Scale Medicaid
<b>AI Anon/Alateen</b> 1-888-425-2666	Support group Alcoholism-friends/relatives and teens.	No fees
<b>AA Hotline</b> 595-1212	12 Step Program	No fees
<b>Peninsula Area Help Line</b> 875-9314	Narcotics Anonymous	No fees
<b>Advanced Recovery Systems</b>	Alcohol, Eating Disorders and Substance Abuse	Private Insurance

## FILING A COMPLAINT...



Here is the Customer Service  
Hotline Number:  
**757-928-6063 or 757-928-3680**

A TENANT HOTLINE IS A FREE SERVICE FOR TENANTS LIVING IN PROPERTIES OWNED AND MANAGED BY THE NEWPORT NEWS REDEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING AUTHORITY. WHEN FILING A COMPLAINT, YOU MUST STATE YOUR FULL NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER AND SPEAK AS SLOWLY AND CLEARLY AS POSSIBLE.

WE WILL CALL YOU BACK WITHIN 48 HOURS REGARDING YOUR CONCERNS.

THANK YOU



# HAPPY 4<sup>th</sup> of JULY



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