



# Resident Newsletter

## May 2022

### KEEPING UP WITH CURRENT TOPICS

## Beat the Heat

Summer heat is in full swing! Residents should keep these best practices in mind when trying to beat the heat.



- **Keep your home set at 78°** to comply with industry recommendations for efficient cooling during the summer.
- **Adjust your inside temperature to a reasonable setting.** Adjustments that are more than 20 degrees lower than outside temperatures will not help keep your home cooler, but may overtax the cooling system and freeze the A/C unit's lines.
- **Understand that adjusting temperature settings does not impact the time it will take to cool your home.** Turning temperature settings down lower

than needed does not impact cooling time, but may tax the A/C system and diminish cooling efficiency.

- **Adjust your A/C system temperature when no one is home.** Turning up the temperature by even 5 degrees can lower energy bills and allow your unit to rest which aids unit efficiency.
- **Do not turn the unit off entirely.** Turning the unit off entirely creates moisture issues.
- **Keep blinds and curtains closed** during the day to keep your home cool.
- **Make sure not to block air vents** with furniture, curtains, or other items.
- **Keep outside doors or windows closed during the day.** Box and ceiling fans can be used to increase air circulation.

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- **Save household tasks that increase humidity levels for evening hours.** This includes taking long showers, mopping the floors and doing laundry.
- **If your unit is not working, call in a work order to report it to staff.** Only one work order needs to be requested per household.
- **Window units may temporarily be provided to homes without a functioning A/C.** These units may be used until a long term repair can be made.

## RAD Update

RHA continues to move forward with converting some of its public housing communities to section 8 vouchers through the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program.

RHA's goal with RAD is to ensure that its housing remains affordable long-term while still providing quality housing to current and future residents.

Residents in converted units will feel very little day-to-day impact.

The first four properties are expected to convert this summer. More resident meetings for these properties will take place and may be held either in person or by conference call. Please make sure to look out for notices of any upcoming meetings and make efforts to attend.

Anyone with questions about RAD can contact Laura McCann at (919) 508-1304 or by email at [lmccann@rhaonline.com](mailto:lmccann@rhaonline.com).

Additional information on RAD can be found on HUD's website here:

<https://www.hud.gov/RAD/residents>

## Communications from RHA

RHA aims to be upfront and transparent with its residents. Clear and direct communication are necessary to help ensure that residents are kept up-to-date.

We are currently working to improve communications with public housing and section 8 residents. Surveys and other feedback tools may be used in order to help determine the best way to reach our residents. RHA asks that its residents participate in any upcoming communication efforts.

Please remember that RHA will *always* provide its communications directly to its residents. Be cautious of any information that does not directly come from the Housing Authority. If you have any questions or concerns about RHA

## Resident Spotlight: Welcome Community Presidents

The Inter-Community Council and Raleigh Housing Authority have the honor of working with your elected community presidents to strengthen relationships and foster positive living environments in public housing. These residents have been elected to two-year terms to help provide a united resident voice, make community improvements, provide resident opportunities, strengthen community bonds and more.

Please welcome these resident volunteers to their elected positions! We look forward to the positive impacts these individuals will make.



From Left to Right: Lottie Moore (The Oaks), Jackie Williams (Glenwood Towers), LaGina Chism (Berkshire Village), Sheila Burgess (Terrace Park), Ilesha Cobb (Heritage Park)

communications, please contact your Property Manager.

## Memorial Day

As we move into the summer season, we often think of Memorial Day as the official start to summer activities. It is easy to forget that Memorial Day is a holiday where we honor and mourn members of the military who have passed away while serving in the US Armed Forces.

Originally known as "Decoration Day", this holiday has been held annually since 1868. Memorial Day is celebrated with a number of traditions including:

- Wearing poppy flowers in remembrance of those lost.
- Observing a minute of silence at 3:00pm.
- Hanging or displaying the US flag.
- Playing or listening to "Taps".
- Visiting a local veterans cemetery or war memorial.

Make sure to take a moment this Memorial Day weekend to remember the individuals who passed away during service to the Armed Forces.



## Keeping Up Communities

RHA takes pride in its communities and encourages residents to participate in community up-keep. Residents impact the way each community looks through every day occurrences like keeping a tidy front door and parking vehicles properly.

Each household is responsible to securely dispose of its trash. Make sure to tie off trash bags to keep contents from spilling out. If you reside in a community with dumpsters, you should place your trash bags inside the receptacle. Do not leave trash around or next to dumpsters. Children who help take out the trash should be monitored to ensure that this chore is handled properly.

Interested communities can also establish resident led planting events, community gardens and clean-up days. In order to start this process, please contact Dolores Cruz by email at [dacruz@rhaonline.com](mailto:dacruz@rhaonline.com) or by phone at (919) 508-1202.

## Local Event Near You: International Food Festival

Raleigh's sixth annual International Food Festival is being held from 12pm to 10pm on Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup>. This festival celebrates the diversity, art, culture, dance, traditions and history of over 30 cultures!

Admission is free and will take place outdoors at City Plaza (the 400 block of Fayetteville Street). Come spend time immersing yourself in cultures from all over the world, learn new dance steps, try delicious foods and more!

## Contacting RHA Staff

As a leading provider of affordable housing in Raleigh, RHA currently provides housing assistance to over 5,300 families. Because of the number of families we help, it is important that

residents contact the correct staff as needed. Residents should contact RHA staff as follows:

### Maintenance Needs/Work Orders

[\(919\) 508-1390](tel:9195081390) for Capitol Park, Chavis Heights, and Walnut Terrace residents.

[\(919\) 831-6401](tel:9198316401) for all other public housing residents.

### Rent Status Line

[\(919\) 508-1395](tel:9195081395) for all public housing residents.

### Property Management Offices

[\(919\) 508-1229](tel:9195081229) for Glenwood Towers.

[\(919\) 508-1236](tel:9195081236) for Kentwood, Eastwood and Birchwood.

[\(919\) 508-1231](tel:9195081231) for Carriage House, The Oaks and Stonecrest.

[\(919\) 508-1230](tel:9195081230) for Heritage Park and Mayview.

[\(919\) 508-1244](tel:9195081244) for Meadow Ridge, Valleybrook, Berkshire Village and Terrace Park.

[\(919\) 508-1217](tel:9195081217) for Capitol Park.

[\(919\) 508-1226](tel:9195081226) for Chavis Heights.

[\(919\) 508-1208](tel:9195081208) for Scattered Sites.

[\(919\) 508-1237](tel:9195081237) for Walnut Terrace.

### Resident Services

[\(919\) 508-1202](tel:9195081202) for all public housing residents.

### Housing Management Department

[\(919\) 508-1201](tel:9195081201) for all public housing residents.

### RHA Main Office

[\(919\) 831-8300](tel:9198318300) or [info@rhaonline.com](mailto:info@rhaonline.com).

Please make sure that you have easy access to these contacts and use them appropriately. Using the correct contact will help make sure that items are handled quickly and efficiently.

## Reasons for Renters Insurance

Do you have renters insurance? RHA strongly encourages all of its residents to consider getting a policy for protection. There are several reasons to get a renters insurance policy like:

- **It protects against personal property losses.** If something happens to your valuables, then your policy may provide protections to your clothes, jewelry, luggage, furniture, and electronics.
- **It can provide liability coverage.** A policy may provide protection if someone is injured while in your home or if you or another covered person accidentally injure someone.
- **It covers your belongings when you are out of town.** Renter's insurance can cover your personal belongings, whether they are in your home, car, or with you while you travel.

The bottom line is that renters insurance offers many types of protections to families. There are different policy price points and affordable options are out there. Interested residents should research insurance companies and policies to determine the best fit for their family and needs.

## Animal Microchip and Rabies Vaccine Clinic

The Raleigh Police Department and Animal Control are holding a low-cost clinic for animals needing microchips, rabies and/or distemper vaccines.



These services will be provided on a first come, first served basis for 100-300 animals depending on the service. Microchips will be \$10, rabies vaccines (both 1 and 3 year vaccines) will be \$5, and distemper vaccines (DHPP) will be free.

The clinic is being held at Roberts Park (1300 E. Martin Street) from 9am-1pm on Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. Make sure that you protect any furry family members from becoming lost or getting sick.

## Resident Services

We are fortunate to have partners offering services and programs to RHA residents.

A list of resources that may benefit our residents can be found in multiple places including on RHA's website here:

<https://www.rhaonline.com/public-housing/resources-for-residents/>

Questions about programs or other resources can be directed to RHA's Resident Services Coordinator, Dolores Cruz, by email at [dcruz@rhaonline.com](mailto:dcruz@rhaonline.com) or by phone at (919) 508-1202.

### Diaper Train

Diaper Train provides FREE diapers for those in need. The Diaper Train is found in the basement of Saint Saviour's

Center located at 616 Tucker Street. Hours are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30am-12:00pm.

RHA can provide resident referrals and monthly supplies may be set-up on request. You can contact their staff at (919) 833-6400 or visit [www.SaintSaviourCenter.org](http://www.SaintSaviourCenter.org) to learn about their other offerings.

### Child Evangelism Fellowship

Child Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) invites children ages 5-12 to a week of fun from June 27<sup>th</sup> through July 1<sup>st</sup>. This free course will offer a one-hour program from 11am-12pm each of the five days. This program is being held beside the Valleybrook Management Office.

If you are interested in signing up for this ministry-based club, please contact Laura Gunn with CEF at (919) 637-9358.

## Green Chair Project Referrals

RHA is excited to be working with the Green Chair Project through referrals. This non-profit organization is working to help provide furniture for RHA residents in need.

If your household is in need of furniture or other essential furnishings, please contact Dolores Cruz and ask about a referral. Ms. Cruz can be contacted at (919) 508-1202 or by email at [dcruz@rhaonline.com](mailto:dcruz@rhaonline.com).

