

Decatur Housing Authority

July 2020 Newsletter



Terri Goodman, Executive Director

Decatur Housing Authority
1808 E. Locust Street
217-423-7711
www.decaturohousing.com
Emergency Number:
217-423-3400 (After hours)



Dates to Remember

July 1 – Rent Due

July 3 – DHA Office Closed

July 4 – Independence Day

***Please note due to COVID-19 rent will not be collected in the high-rise buildings. PLEASE DO NOT SLIDE YOUR RENT PAYMENT UNDER OFFICE DOOR AT THE HIGHRISES.*

You can pay rent by mail, drop box at main office (1808 E Locust St.) or pay at Busey Bank. If paying at Busey Bank, you must pay full amount and have your statement with you. Busey Bank will not accept partial rent payments.

ATTENTION TENANTS

ADDITION TO HOUSEHOLD (LEASE) & VISITORS

We would like to remind our tenants that in order to move someone into your unit, they **MUST** be added to the lease. A proper background screening will be done in order to approve the move-in.

In addition, Visitors are not allowed to stay in the unit longer than 2 weeks without prior written consent from the Property Manager. Visitors cannot be in the unit in the excess of 30 days per year. Please keep in mind that you are responsible for any illegal activity done by your guests while at your unit. Violation of the previously stated is grounds for an eviction notice.

Please contact your property manager if you have any questions or concerns.

Window Project at Lexington

The window replacement project at the Lexington is in the final stretch for the window and AC portion of the work. We will continue to protect the health and safety of our residents and the contractors by continuing to require everyone to wear a mask while the contractors are in the building, especially while they are working in your apartment. We are offering a sitting room off the lobby for tenants who do not want to be in the unit with the contractors. I will keep you informed when they will be coming to do your windows.

After they install the windows, the painter will come in to patch the new drywall then the carpenters will come back to install the trim, the blinds, and the screens. Unfortunately, the blinds are on back order due to the Covid-19 but should be arriving soon. The AC contractors will be coming in your apartments to wire and install the AC units but they will notify you in advance. I'm sure you have all noticed, the plaster work on the exterior has started. This is a 4-step process so it will take some time. I appreciate everyone's cooperation, understanding, and patience.

If you have any questions, contact me at 423-7745 Ext. 3038. Thank you. Diane

HIGH-RISE LAUNDRY BASKETS

- Please be respectful of other tenants by returning laundry baskets to the laundry room from where you borrowed it. Do not keep them in your unit as they are for everyone to utilize. There should be two baskets in each laundry room on every floor. If you have one in your unit, please return it to a laundry room immediately. Thank You!



Scovill Zoo free admission days will be every Thursday, June 11 – October 8. To avoid long lines and large gatherings, visitors and members are asked to adopt a new process of visiting the zoo by booking tickets online at scovillzoo.com or checking for available capacity by calling 421-7435 during open hours before attending the facility. Walk-ups will be limited. Additional zoo amenities including the Z.O.&O. Train and Endangered Species Carousel are closed until further notice.

High-Rises & Macon St.
Apartments

Melissa Aldridge
217-423-7745 Ext. 3026

SERVICE COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Scattered Sites &
Garden Apartments

Kellie Marlow
217-423-7745 Ext. 3019

FROM THE DESK OF THE ROSS SERVICE COORDINATOR:

The Summer Food Program is now available to all children aged 18 and under.

Grab and go meals are available at the following schools on **Tuesdays & Fridays:**

- Eisenhower - 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Hope and Steven Decatur - 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- MacArthur - 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Also available at the following schools on **Tuesdays & Fridays:**

- French STEM 10:30 a.m. to Noon at,
- Muffley - 10:30 a.m. to Noon
- South Shores - 10:30 a.m. to Noon
- Parsons - 10:30 a.m. to Noon

Three days' worth of meals are provided on Tuesdays and two days' worth of meals are provided on Fridays.

***STAY COOL**

Wear Appropriate Clothing: Choose lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.

Stay Cool Indoors: Stay in an air-conditioned place as much as possible. Call your local health department to see if there are any heat-relief shelters in your area.

- ❖ Electric fans may provide comfort, but when the temperature is in the high 90s, they will not prevent heat-related illness.
- ❖ Taking a cool shower or bath or moving to an air-conditioned place is a much better way to cool off.
- ❖ Use your stove and oven less to maintain a cooler temperature in your home.

Pace Yourself: Cut down on exercise during the heat. If your heart pounds & leaves you gasping for breath when you exert yourself, STOP all activity, especially if you become lightheaded, confused, weak, or faint.

Wear Sunscreen: Sunburn affects your body's ability to cool down and can make you dehydrated. Look for sunscreens that say "broad spectrum" or "UVA/UVB protection" on their labels- these products work best.

Do Not Leave Children in Cars: Cars can quickly heat up to dangerous temperatures, even with a window cracked open. Children are especially at risk of getting a heat stroke or dying. When traveling with children, remember to do the following:

- ❖ Never leave infants, children or pets in a parked car, even if the windows are cracked open.
- ❖ To remind yourself that a child is in the car, keep a stuffed animal in the car seat. When the child is buckled in, place the stuffed animal in the front with the driver.
- ❖ When leaving your car, check to be sure everyone is out of the car. Do not overlook any children who have fallen asleep in the car.

Avoid Hot and Heavy Meals: They add heat to your body!

BEAUTIFICATION CONTEST

Remember, we will be judging the lawn beautification contest soon so you will need to finish your yards and make sure they are in tip top condition the first week of July.

***STAY HYDRATED**

Drink Plenty of Fluids: Drink more fluids, regardless of how active you are. Don't wait until you're thirsty to drink.

Warning: If your doctor limits the amount you drink or has you on water pills, ask how much you should drink while the weather is hot.

Stay away from very sugary or alcoholic drinks: These actually cause you to lose more body fluid. Also avoid very cold drinks, because they can cause stomach cramps.

Replace Salt and Minerals: Heavy sweating removes salt and minerals from the body that need to be replaced. A sports drink can replace the salt and minerals you lose in sweat. If you are on a low-salt diet, have diabetes, high blood pressure, or other chronic conditions, talk with your doctor before drinking a sports beverage or taking salt tablets.

Keep Your Pets Hydrated: Provide plenty of fresh water for your pets, and leave the water in a shady area.

***STAY INFORMED**

Check for Updates: Check your local news for extreme heat alerts and safety tips and to learn about any cooling shelters in your area.

Know the Signs: Learn the signs and symptoms of heat-related illnesses and how to treat them.

Use a Buddy System: Heat-induced illness can cause a person to become confused or lose consciousness. If you are 65 years of age or older, have a friend or relative call to check on you twice a day during a heat wave. If you know someone in this age group, check on them at least twice a day.

Monitor Those at High Risk: People at greater risk than others:

- ❖ Infants and young children
- ❖ People 65 years of age or older
- ❖ People who are overweight
- ❖ People who overexert during work or exercise
- ❖ People who are physically ill, especially with heart disease or high blood pressure, or who take certain medications, such as for depression, insomnia, or poor circulation

Visit adults at risk at least twice a day and closely watch them for signs of heat exhaustion or heat stroke. Infants and young children, of course, need much more frequent watching.