Buford Housing Authority "The Interview" May 2020, Newsletter



"Interview"

A newsletter for the Residents of the Buford Housing Authority Calendar of Events for May 2020

LAST DAY TO PAY RENT IS FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2020.

LOBBY HOURS: Please be aware that our lobby will remain **CLOSED** until further notice. We strongly encourage tenants to utilize the **ONLINE** payment system on the payment portal located on our website (www.bufordhousing.com). The other option for rent payment is US Mail or placing payment in the drop box located in the brick wall to the right of our front door (see the picture below).



These payment options follow the current distancing regulations and reduce risk of exposing tenants and staff to COVID-19. The Lobby will remain closed until further notice. If you need to drop off any other documentation including paystubs, tax returns, etc. please place this paperwork in the drop box.

Please call the office if you have any questions or if you need any assistance.



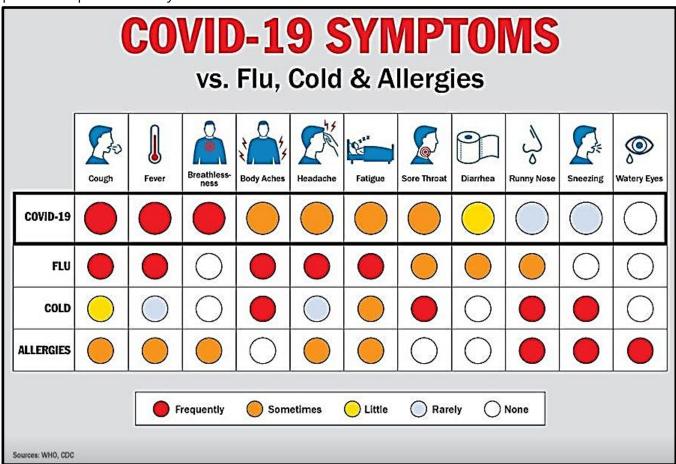
Buford Housing
Authority offices will
be closed Monday,
May 25th for
Memorial Day



WORK ORDERS: Please be sure to continue to submit all work orders to the Buford Housing Authority by calling the office. DO NOT EMAIL WORKORDER REQUESTS, they must be phoned in to the office at 770-945-5212. If you email a workorder directly to an employee and they are on vacation or out sick, your request might be missed or delayed. Please call the office with any workorder requests.

Due to the COVID-19 epidemic, all work orders will be categorized as non-emergency or emergency work orders. Non-emergency work orders will be completed after the epidemic has past and the risk to exposure has subsided. The Buford Housing Authority will respond immediately to all emergency related work orders. Again, it is your responsibility under your lease agreement to call in ALL work orders.

<u>HOUSEHOLD ILLNESS:</u> Please notify the office immediately should anyone in your household be diagnosed with Covid-19, or if anyone in your household is asked to quarantine at home due to exposure to the Covid-19 virus, or if anyone in your household is showing symptoms such as fever, coughing and breathlessness. The BHA wants to be sure and protect our staff that may interact with tenants and limit the possible spread of any illness to others.



During this time of Social Distancing, Buford Housing has two ways you can pay your rent. The first and best way is to pay online. Go to www.bufordhousing.com and set up your account. Here you can pay online with a card.

The second way is to pay rent with a check or money order. These can be dropped in the Mail or placed in the office drop box. Our mailing address is:

2050 Hutchins Street Buford GA 30518

If you mail your rent payment, please mail it more than 7 days in advance so your rent will not be late. **DO NOT place blank Money Orders in the Drop Box or in the Mail**, they must be filled out. **See the following examples.**

<u>HOW TO FILL OUT A CHECK OR MONEY ORDER</u>: Here are examples of how complete a personal check and the most common money orders we have seen to pay rent.

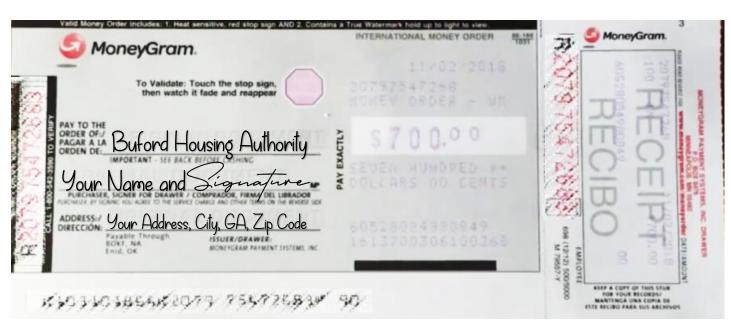


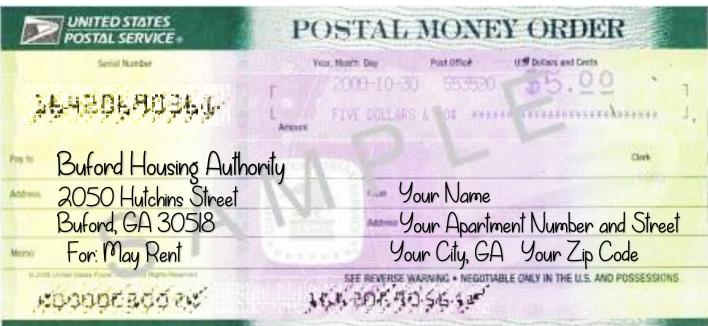
- 1 Today's date: Examples May 3, 2020 or 05/03/2020 or 5-3-2020
- 2 Pay to the order of: Buford Housing Authority
- 3 Your rent amount using numbers:
- 4 Your rent amount in written words.
- 5 What is this check for?
- 6 Your signature

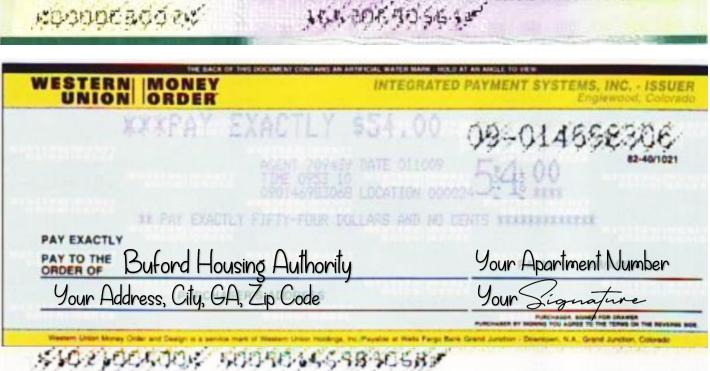
CAUTION Do not place BLANK checks or money orders in the DROP BOX or Mail

Money Order Examples

You should tear off and keep the Money order receipt for your records.







PARKING: If your development has numbered parking spaces, please make sure you park in your assigned numbered space first and a blank parking space only if necessary. DO NOT PARK IN ANOTHER APARTMENT'S SPACE. If you have guests over it is your responsibility to make sure they do not park in your neighbor's numbered space. If your vehicle is photographed in someone else's numbered space, you can be charged a \$20 parking fine for EACH



OCCURANCE. Repeated violations can result in eviction.

Your lease states:

6. OBLIGATION OF RESIDENT

F. If I live in a development where the parking spaces are assigned, I will park only in my assigned parking space or another unmarked parking space. I will not park in the assigned parking space of another resident nor will I allow my family or guests to do so. My parking in another's assigned parking space or my family or guests doing this will be considered a serious violation of my Lease.

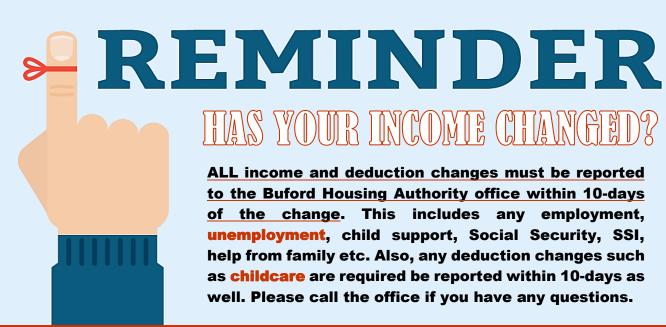


TRASH: The City of Buford has currently suspended curbside trash pickup. Your household garbage service, picked-up from your garbage can remains as scheduled. Any trash items should be broken down and placed in your garbage can with your household garbage and not dumped next to the green electrical boxes or on the curb. Do not put large items or trash on the curb until further notice. Households who put trash on the street will be fined \$20 + labor for maintenance to clean up.

Repeated violators are subject to eviction. In the photograph here, there is a broken mirror. If an inspector found this, it would be written up as a hazard violation. If you have bulky trash items or boxes you wish to throw away, please call the office and we can direct you to one of our BHA neighborhood dumpsters.



<u>FUNDRAISER</u>: North Gwinnett Kiwanis Club is conducting its annual Vidalia Onion sale to benefit area high school seniors and the North Gwinnett CO-OP. These fresh first-harvest onions are being trucked directly from M&T Farms in Toombs County to Buford. These Sweet Vidalia Onions are being sold in 10lb. bags for \$10 each. To purchase your bag please contact David Williams at 404-386-4782. This is a great opportunity to contribute to our community and savor the sweet taste of fresh Georgia Vidalia onions!



ALL income and deduction changes must be reported to the Buford Housing Authority office within 10-days of the change. This includes any employment, unemployment, child support, Social Security, SSI, help from family etc. Also, any deduction changes such as childcare are required be reported within 10-days as well. Please call the office if you have any questions.

It's a Toilet, NOTa Trash Can!

Never flush the following items or put them down any drain. Toss them in the trash instead.

- Baby/Facial/Cleaning Wipes
- Tampons
- Sanitary Napkins
- Medication
- Hair
- Dental Floss
- · Cotton Swabs/Balls
- Bandages
- Rags and Towels
- Rubber Items (like latex gloves)
- Fat, Cooking Oil, Grease

- Clothing Labels
- Candy/Food Wrappers
- Syringes
- Cigarette Butts
- Disposable Toilet Brushes
- Kitty Litter
- Aguarium Gravel
- Plastic Items
- Diapers
- Fruit Stickers
- Paper Towels

Only Flush the 3 P's - Pee, Poop, and Paper (TOILET paper)

****ATTENTION TENANTS****

Sewer stoppage or damage caused by tenants flushing any item other than body fluids and toilet paper will be charged actual LABOR charges which is assessed at \$6.00 every 15 minutes and includes time to obtain materials, clean up, and parts.

ALL PAGES OF YOUR STATE AND FEDERAL TAX RETURNS MUST BE TURNED INTO THE OFFICE AS PART OF THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION TO COMPLETE YOUR RECERTIFICATION

To include all W-2s and any 1099s.



<u>TAXES</u>: If you or anyone in your household files taxes you will need to bring your completed tax documents to the office along with your W-2 forms and any 1099 documents as certification of your 2019 income. State and Federal taxes are required documentation to complete your recertification. If you have any questions, please call the office

NOTICE: This will inform you that Maintenance personnel will be going door to door during the month of June on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, & 5th to replace furnace filters. Please be aware that during the month your furnace filters may be changed, and this is your NOTICE that Maintenance personnel will be coming into your apartment. Please make sure your maintenance closet is not blocked with furniture or other personal belongings.



This is a reminder that the Buford Housing Authority properties are served by natural gas as provided through the Buford Housing Authority owned gas pipeline system. Natural gas is efficient and reliable and is used as an energy source for heating, water heating and sometimes cooking. Here are a few ways to ensure the safe operation of our pipeline system. If you smell natural gas (rotten egg smell) or hear a hissing sound coming from piping while on the premises,

please leave the area immediately and call the Buford Housing Authority office at 770-945-5212 or call 911 from a safe location. Please program the Buford Housing Authority office number into your cell phone, if possible. If you are inside a building, while exiting, do not turn on or off light switches, do not use the telephone or do anything that may create a spark.

Also, there should be no digging by residents or contractors on the property without first notifying the Georgia 811 Utility Protection Center (1-800-282-7411 or simply 811) as damage to the natural gas pipeline may occur.

If you have any questions, please contact the Buford Housing Authority Executive Director at 770-945-5212.



Your Response Today Can Shape Your Future

The 2020 Census is underway and more households across America are responding every day. Over 70 million households have responded to date, representing 48.1% of all households in America. Make sure that you and your friends and family are included in this once-a-decade count.



Help us spread the word: Everyone can respond to the 2020 Census online To help you answer the census, the U.S. Census Bureau provides translated web pages and guides in 59 non-English languages, including American Sign Language, as well as guides in braille and large print. Visit 2020census.gov for more information.



ECONOMIC IMPACT PAYMENTS

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

\$2,400* FOR MARRIED COUPLES



Eligible married couples filing a joint return with adjusted gross income up to **\$150,000** will automatically receive the full \$2,400 payment.

\$500* PER CHILD

Parents also get \$500 for each eligible child **under 17**.



\$1,200* FOR INDIVIDUALS

Eligible individuals with adjusted gross income up to \$75,000 will automatically receive the full \$1,200 payment.



AUTOMATIC PAYMENTS



Most taxpayers don't need to take any extra steps to receive a payment. The IRS will use information from a taxpayer's **2019 tax return** if they've filed it, or their 2018 tax return, if they haven't.

* Income and other limits apply.

LEARN MORE & STAY UPDATED

www.IRS.gov/coronavirus