

Buford Housing Authority

“The Interview”

August 2021, Newsletter



“Interview”

A newsletter for the Residents of the
Buford Housing Authority
Calendar of Events for August 2021

**LAST DAY TO PAY RENT IS
MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 2021**

LOBBY REOPENING: Our lobby reopened in July. Our doors have a new wave sensor that provides touch free entrance and exit. Simply hold your hand in front of the wave sensor box and the door will open. Temperature check at our kiosk and masks are required for everyone entering the lobby.



It is still best to continue to pay rent online and send documentation via the tenant portal from our website www.bufordhousing.com. And you still have the no contact option to drop rent or paperwork in the drop box; or send us an message via email at bufordhousing@bufordhousing.com.

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



AFTER HOURS MAINTENANCE: BHA Maintenance staff is available after hours and weekends for emergency repairs. An **emergency problem includes**, but is not limited to, issues with **toilet or water leaks; no hot water or a leaking water heater; heat or air conditioner problems, smoke alarm beeping, locked out of unit; gas leak; major electrical issues; non-working refrigerator etc.** If you have an emergency maintenance issue, please call 770-945-5212 and you will be connected to the on-call BHA Maintenance man.

DO NOT EMAIL WORKORDER REQUESTS, they must be phoned in to the office. 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.



REMINDER

HAS YOUR INCOME CHANGED?

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.

BARBECUES AND GRILLS: It's grilling season! We want our residents to enjoy all the flavors of summer with their barbecues and grills. Here are a few guidelines to keep this grilling season safe and enjoyable for everyone.



1. All grilling must be out in the yard away from buildings and sidewalks. **You must not operate grills or barbecues on any covered porch.**
2. Grills should be covered and stored on your porch or patio when not in use.
3. It is a lease violation to store flammable items *inside* your apartment. Keep all grilling supplies such as charcoal and lighter fluid inside the cooled grill on your porch when not in use.

Chimineas and firepits are not permitted.

NOTICE: This will inform you that Maintenance personnel will be going door to door during the month of **October on the 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, & 22nd** to replace furnace filters. Maintenance will be going into each room to check every vent. 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.**

CONTACT PAPER, WALPAPER, SHELF-LINER, STICKERS AND DECALS:

Do not place contact paper, removable wallpaper, or stickers on BHA walls, doors, appliances etc. You will be charged for damage and the removal of sticky residue.



Also, please use caution if you install shelf liner in your cabinets. Do not use the type that has an adhesive backing. Certain shelf liners that stick to cabinets cause damage when removed, which can be a billable item PLUS the labor involved.



From your lease:

6. OBLIGATION OF RESIDENT

I agree:

Q. Not to make any modifications to the building or grounds, including but not limited to, changing appliances or fixtures, painting (including feather painting) or **installing wallpaper** or border. I must not display any signs, use tacks, nails, screws, fasteners, or floor coverings in my apartment except where authorized by the Authority. **I must not put-up decals, contact or wallpaper, or other sticky materials on doors, fixtures, appliances, equipment, walls, floors, or furnishings that belong to the Authority.**



FULL-TIME STUDENT: In order to qualify for a full-time student deduction, we require documentation of the hours that **COLLEGE AND WORKING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS** are taking each semester. **It is the tenant's responsibility to provide this documentation to the office.** We will not ask for this information over and over. The deduction will simply be removed; any income the student earns will count toward the household rent; and community service hours will be required for tenants 18 years and older.

Tips to Help Your Home Beat the Summer Heat

With summer temperatures heating up, these top home cooling tips will help boost your comfort and energy savings.

1. **Keep Cool Air Flowing** Be sure your air vents and returns are not blocked by couches, tables, curtains, or other obstructions. Your home's HVAC system was designed to allow for maximum air flow, and covering the vents prevents proper cooling of your rooms. Also keep all interior doors open for good air circulation.

2. **Consider Different Ways to Cook** Keep your home more comfortable by firing up the grill instead of heating up your oven or cooking on the stove. The longer days and beautiful evening weather make outdoor cooking a breeze. Cooking in an Instant Pot or slow cooker also cuts down on residual heat in your home from your stove or oven.



3. **Manage Your Windows** Keeping your drapes, or shades closed during the peak heat of the day (mid to late-afternoon) will help keep your home cool, especially for south-facing windows.

4. **Set the Dial Higher** The U.S. Department of Energy recommends setting your thermostat at 78 degrees (all temperatures cited here are in degrees Fahrenheit). You will save 5 to 8 percent on cooling costs with each degree above that mark.

If you're really committed to turning up the temp while you're home, ease into it. It can take time for your body to adjust to a warmer environment. Try raising the temperature by one degree every day or two, until you get to 78.



Also, remember that humidity can make you feel hotter. So be sure to **keep the A/C on**, even at a higher temperature, to help draw humidity out of the air. **WE DO NOT RECOMMEND TURNING YOUR SYSTEM OFF WHILE YOU ARE AWAY.**

When you leave home for more than one hour, setting the thermostat to 7-10 degrees above your normal setting while you're away, could save as much as 10% on your electricity bill. That said, if you have a pet at home, make sure you keep it cool enough for them to be comfortable. Reset it upon your return, and the room will cool down in only 15 minutes. The system will use less energy during the cool-down period than if you had left it running at a lower setting while you were out.



INSPECTIONS: APARTMENT INSPECTIONS ARE COMING SOON! We are waiting for scheduling, and **you will only have a 10-day notice.** NOW would be a good time to review the expectations, so you are prepared. Every room of your apartment will be inspected. Please read the following suggestions that will help you get ready.

1. If you live in a handicap apartment, please pay attention to the emergency cords in the bedroom and bathroom. The cords should reach the floor and should be within reach. Please pull the cord right now so that you can check it out and if you do not hear the bell ring outside or the cord will not reach the floor, please call the office.
2. Every apartment should be clean and neat, porches free of trash and accumulation. Trash should be picked up in the yard and around the apartment. Trash cans should not be overflowing.
3. All wires and electrical cords should be up off the floor, or they will be counted as a TRIP HAZARD; these include internet, TV, and computer cables as well as lamp and appliance cords.
4. All plates on light switches and electrical outlets should be whole and unbroken. If you have missing, broken, or cracked electrical plates, please call the office now. You will be charged \$20.00 for EACH damaged plate found during inspection.
5. Any dripping plumbing, non-working plumbing, or leaking pipes especially under the sinks or hose bibs located on the exterior of the building, should be reported to the office.
6. Toilet, tub, shower, and sinks should all be operational and drain well. Bath sinks and tubs should have stoppers that hold water. Hot and cold-water handles must be in place and working. Toilets must be in place and not wobble.

7. The caulk around the tub and bathroom sink should not have damage and there should be no mold, mildew, or peeling paint anywhere in the apartment.
8. All smoke detectors should be in place and working. There is a \$20.00 charge for EACH damaged, missing, or disabled smoke detector. 2ND occurrence will result in EVICTION.
9. Blocked windows or doors - one window in every room needs to have easy access for fire escape. Do not block with furniture or other items that may prevent escape in case of fire. All windowsills should be clean and clear of clutter. Every window will be checked, and they should stay up when raised.
10. Any broken glass including picture frames, mirrors, dishware, tabletops, *etc.* should be removed. Broken windows should be reported to the office for repair.
11. Stoves and ovens should be clean and free of grease. All burners on the stove must light. If they do not work, please call the office. All knobs on the stove must be present.
12. Refrigerator gasket seals cannot be broken or damaged on refrigerator or freezer doors.
13. If you see roaches or know that you have them, please call the office now for treatment.
14. Access to the electrical panel, furnace, and water heater doors cannot be blocked by furniture or other items that are not easily moved.
15. Exterior door seals, weather stripping and door sweeps on exterior and storm doors must be in place without damaged. Door hardware should not be loose and should lock and/or latch properly.
16. There should be no damage to sheetrock or holes in walls.
17. All Flammable/Combustible Materials - must be properly stored. (Charcoal, lighter fluid must be stored inside the covered grill outside on the porch.)

Please call the office and schedule maintenance repairs on any of the above items ASAP!



Gwinnett County Head Start / Pre-K



Scan the QR code or go to www.ndo.org to do a Pre-application

All locations will start accepting applications on March 1ST, 2021



Don't Delay - Call Today!

GWINNETT COUNTY LOCATIONS:

Buford

Accepts 3- to 4-year-old

84 Maddox Road
Buford, GA 30518
(770)271-8345

Norcross

Accepts 3- to 4-year-olds

5030 Georgia Belle Court
Norcross, GA 30093
(678) 225-5427

Easter Seals of North Georgia

Accepts 6 weeks to 4-year-olds

4335 Steve Reynolds Blvd
Norcross, GA 30093
(770) 674-5797

Sunshine House (Three Locations):

Accepts 3- to 4-year-olds

208 Hurricane Shoals Rd NW
Lawrenceville, GA 30046
(770) 339-4240

Accepts 4-year-olds

1494 Pleasant Hill Dr.
Duluth, GA 30096
(770) 279-9888

Accepts 3-year-olds

2840 Sugarloaf Pkwy,
Lawrenceville, GA 30045
(770) 513-1000

All Centers Are Following COVID-19 Guidance From CDC

Application Requirements for Head Start/Early Head Start

- Proof of Age: Head Start children must be 3 years old and Early Head Start children must be 6 weeks on or before September 1st, 2021. (Examples: Passport, Official Hospital Birth record or Birth Certificate)
- Proof of Income for the past 12 months/52 weeks for all adults living in the household. (Example: 1040 Tax Form 2020)

Additional documents may be requested once the child has been accepted into the program.

Application Requirements for Georgia Pre-K

- Proof of Age: Pre-K children must be 4 years old on or before September 1st, 2021. (Examples: Passport, Official Hospital Birth record or Birth Certificate)
- Gwinnett County Proof of Residency
- Social Security Card (if available) or waiver

Additional documents may be requested once the child has been accepted into the program.

\$ No Cost to program participants \$

Quality Learning Opportunities to promote school readiness.	Family Support Services including parent education.	Health and Development Screenings and assessments.	Disability and Mental Wellness Support for families.	Nutritious Meals Nutritious and balanced meal

Ninth District Opportunity Inc. is a Non-Profit Community Agency and an EOE.

Head Start/ Early Head Start is a federally funded program.

We serve children with disabilities and do not discriminate based on race, sex, creed, religion, or disability.

Transportation is NOT provided.



Buford-Sugar Hill Branch August Programs

Your Path to Citizenship - In Person

Sunday - August 1st @ 3:30pm

Have you wanted to become a U.S. Citizen but don't know where to start? We will help guide you on your path to citizenship! **For Adults.**

Toddler Time - In Person

Tuesdays - August 10th, 17th, 24th & 31st @ 11am

Join us for a storytime just for the little ones! **For babies and toddlers, ages 2 and under.**

Preschool Storytime - In Person

Wednesdays - August 11th, 18th, & 25th @ 11am

Join in the fun with your preschool child as we listen to stories, play games and sing songs! **For children, ages 3-5.**

Reading Buddies - In Person

Mondays - August 16th & 30th @ 4pm

Join us for a fun session of learning, reading and bonding! **For children, ages 5 - 8.**

Afternoon Storytime - Virtual

Wednesdays - August 4th, 11th, 18th, & 25th @ 1pm

Join us virtually for a storytime every Wednesday! ***Registration Required**

Homework Help - In Person

Wednesdays - August 11th, 18th, & 25th @ 5pm

Need help on subjects such as Language Arts, Math & Science? Our volunteer homework helpers can help students of all ages. It's a drop-in session. **For Students of All Ages.**

Business Cards for Job Seekers - In Person

Thursday - August 19th @ 7pm

Create your own business cards for networking, events, and job fairs using Canva graphic design platform and a Silhouette Cameo 3. **For Adults.**

Find Your Next Job - In Person

Thursday - August 26th @ 11am

Learn tips and tricks to help with getting your next job. **For Adults.**

Extreme Grocery Budgeting - In Person

Saturday - August 28th @ 10:30am

Learn to feed a family of 4 for \$35 a week. Food Demonstration included! **For Adults.**



GWINNETT COUNTY
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Find links and registration to these events at:
<https://gwinnettpl.libnet.info/events>

CORE: FREE COVID-19 Vaccines

We accept walk-ups.

Friday, August 6
11am – 5pm

**Buford Housing Authority Community Building
100A Circle View Drive
Buford, GA 30518**

Use the link or QR code to pre-register. Pfizer will be administered and requires 2 doses. Second dose will be scheduled on-site. For anyone 12 years of age and older.



To register visit:

gnrhealthvax.coreresponse.org



COUNTY HEALTH
DEPARTMENTS

CORE
Community Organized Relief Effort