

Fiscal Year 2007
Public Housing
Assessment System
Score "87"
A "Standard Performer"

We couldn't have done it
without you!
Thanks



MHA Messenger

Preparing for Power Outages

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Safety—Security—Health Issues

- Items needed, flashlight, batteries, AM/FM battery powered radio, battery clock and light sticks.
- Have a 72-hour emergency kit.
- Keep cash and change on hand.
- Keep your cell phone powered up.
- Familiarize yourself with your main electrical panel's on & off switch.
- Check smoke detectors monthly. Just do a self press button check.
- Have a fire extinguisher & know how to operate it.
- Unplug all small appliances & electronics. But leave one light switch

on for when power come back on.

- NO Candles around small children
- Stay home and be safe .
- Focus on children, elderly & disabled individuals needs.

Be a good neighbor and check on a any neighbor with special needs they may need your help.

HOME SWEET HOME



Winter is Here!!

What to do in snow & ice conditions. Stay in doors if all possible and if you must get out, please use extreme caution.

When inclement weather is upon us all tenants will be responsible for areas under their control such as porch steps and sidewalks. Maintenance will be responsible for General Areas such as Parking lots and main side walks.

Please do not call the office, we will get to everyone as soon as we can.

We appreciate your patience and cooperation.



We want your child to be able to play the Game!

A Helping Hand

Mexico Housing will reimbursement any cost of sport activity items required to play the sport with **receipt of payment** for any child who is a resident of Housing. Some items include soccer shoes, shin guards, baseball shoes, baseball gloves, required shirts, shorts or socks etc. Your child must be registered in a sports activity to receive reimbursement of items needed.

Also this will include any sporting activity from the YMCA, Optimist Park, City of Mexico Sport activities, etc. Please bring in registration form & payment will be made directly to the facility.

Please contact Laura Patton, Executive Director, if you have any question. 581-2294 ext 242.

New Pest Control

“Bug-Out” Pest Control will be servicing our units the second and fourth Friday of every month. Please see attached calendar.

The Second Friday
HOLT
LAFAYETTE
WALNUT
GARFIELD
TRINTIY
CENTRAL
UNION

CALHOUN
SEMINARY
BOLIVAR

MAC FARLANE
FIELDCREST
MISSOURI
WADE
LIBERTY
BRECKENRIDGE
SINGLETON
BUCHANAN
HASSEN DRIVE

The Fourth Friday

Need Your Vote

Residents will get to vote for a summer youth activity from one of the following:

1. Cardinal Ball Game
2. Six Flags
3. Big Surf

assigned adult whose admission will be provided. If funds are not provided, this activity will not take place. The plan for this summer youth activity will be held approximately July 2008.

Come to the office and cast your vote.

This Summer Youth Activity will be funded by MHA and all children must be accompanied by their parent or one



*Remember to have fun in the snow with your children **you will be creating memories.*

Very Important Notices

Please remember that it is inappropriate to call Mexico Housing Authority staff members at home. If you have an after hours maintenance emergency, please call 473-5245.

When you call the Emergency after hours number be sure it is an emergency.

Emergency Calls Only

- Gas leak or smell
- No Heat or Air
- No Water
- No Power
- Door(s) or Window(s) won't lock

Sewer not working

All other calls are routine Work Orders and Maintenance has up to 72 hours to perform.

No Special Request

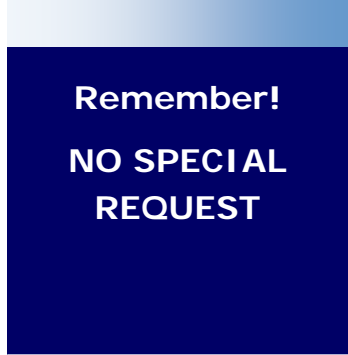
Please do not request staff to do personal favors.

All requests should only relate to Housing Issues.

Any work orders should be called into the office immediately.

Do not give maintenance staff the work order when they come to your neighbors unit. Again, all work orders must be called in.

Thanks again for your cooperation.



Monthly Rent Incentive

Residents that pay their rent by or on the 3rd of each month and must **not** have a past due balance will be eligible to participate in the drawing.

As you come in to pay your rent place your name in the drawing box and for those of you who mail yours in by the 3rd your name will also be entered. Drawing will take place on the next business day after the 3rd. . .

Items for January: Full size Beige Thermal Cotton Blanket

Items for February: 25 pcs. Cook's Kitchen Set

& Colander

Items for March: 16 pcs. Dinnerware Set

WINNERS

October's Winner—Mary Holtkamp

November's Winner—Melanie Quillin

December's Winner—Carolyn Grice

Pay your Rent by the 3rd and you may be the next lucky winner!



Give Away!

We have a few education computer programs and booklets to give away to any Mexico Housing Authority clients. Please limit to 1 subject items per individual and is first come, first serve until stock is depleted. If interested, please stop by the Mexico Housing Authority's Office. The items we have are: Computer Programs for Windows 95/98 Compatibility

- Typing Tutor

Booklets

- Job Search Education
- Job Survival Skills
- Filling Out Forms
- The Complete Control Your Money
- The Complete Get That Job
- 150 Ways to Keep Your Job
- Workforce Literacy skills for Jobs
- How To Be a Success At Work
- Dynamite Resumes
- Dynamite Cover Letter
- Activities For Individualized Career Exploration
- Pass the GED Social Studies Test
- Pass the GED Science Test
- Pass the GED Mathematics Test
- GED Score boost Thinking Skills "Critical Thinking for Reading, Social Studies and Science"

We also have a Library of VHS videos that may be check out and must be returned. If interested, please stop by the office and check them out. Some items are:

Refusal Skills "Yes, you can say no"

Disciplining Kids (without screaming and scolding)

Elementary

Kelly Bear Teaches Series, such as

- Emotional Development and Self Understanding
- Problem Solving Skills and Anger Management
- About Personal Safety

Youth

Peace Talks Series, such as

- Preventing Violence
- Resolving Conflicts
- Handling Dating Pressures and Harassments
- Drugs, Alcohol and Guns: Triggers to Violence

Parenting Difficult Adolescents

Coping with Defiant Teens

Confronting Teens w/ Substance Abuse

Depressed Teens

Eating Disorders

Job World Series

Good Appearance on the Job

Positive Attitudes in Keeping a Job

Follow My Direction

Values, Decisions and Success

Phone Work on the Job

Workplace Motivation

21st Century Employability Skills (3)

Marketing Your Tech Prep Job Skills



January Black History Month Martin Luther King, Jr. & Civil Rights

Test your knowledge

Where did Rosa Parks become famous? **Circle Answer**

- At a Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina
- At a high school in Little Rock, Arkansas
- On a bus in Montgomery, Alabama
- On a march in Selma, Alabama

Which president signed the first major civil rights act of this century? **Circle Answer**

- John F. Kennedy
- Lyndon B. Johnson
- Richard M. Nixon
- Ronald Reagan

Which president signed the law creating the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday? **Circle Answer**

- John F. Kennedy
- Lyndon B. Johnson
- Richard M. Nixon
- Ronald Reagan

What was the name of King's first book? **Circle Answer**

- "Stride Toward Freedom"
- "Dreamer"
- "Why We Can't Wait"
- "We Shall Overcome"

Where was the tactic of the sit-in protest first used? **Circle Answer**

- At a Woolworth's lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina
- At a high school in Little Rock, Arkansas
- On a bus in Birmingham, Alabama
- On a march in Selma, Alabama

Where did King deliver his "I Have a Dream" speech? **Circle Answer**

- At Ebenezer Baptist Church
- In front of the Atlanta City Hall
- At the Lincoln Memorial
- At the Nobel Prize ceremony

What foreign figure has King been compared to? **Circle Answer**

- Charles de Gaulle
- Mohandas Gandhi
- Albert Nobel
- Nelson Mandela

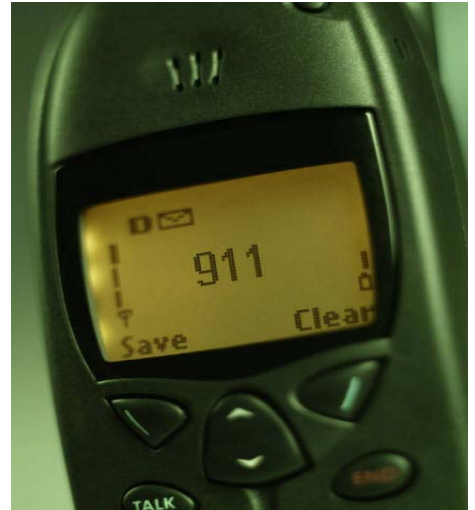
When you should call 911

Calling 911 for non-emergencies or calling 911 as a prank ties up emergency dispatchers who could be handling actual emergencies. Calling 911 for a non-emergency could cost a life.

You **should** call 911 to report any police, fire, or medical emergency.

Call 911 to report:

- Crimes in progress or crimes that have just occurred
- Suspicious activity or behavior
- Fights or riots
- Suicide attempts
- Building fires, brush fires, trash fires, or any other fires
- Severe traffic accidents
- Any medical emergency for which immediate care is needed
- Vicious animals
- Violent/potentially violent individual(s)
- Strong gas smell inside a building
- Intruders



Do not call 911:

- To get the time or temperature
- To ask questions about city issues or activities
- To request directory assistance
- To report problems with a payphone
- For non-emergency information during widespread disasters or emergencies (instead, tune to local radio and television stations for instructions)
- For non-emergency police issues such as loud noise or previous crimes
- To report NOT IN PROGRESS child abuse or suspected child abuse or neglect (Child Abuse Hotline 1- 800-392-3738)
- For general animal control
- To discuss legal questions
- To arrange for regular ambulance transportation to medical appointments (instead, call your health care provider)
- To report broken street lights or traffic lights, broken glass on roads, sinkholes, or other public works issues (instead, call 581-2100)
- For questions about solid waste collection (instead call 581-2100)
- For broken water lines or water/sewer issues (call MHA if you are having a problem inside of your apartment)

If you need police assistance that is NOT an emergency call 473-5800.

What to do about noisy neighbors (*and other nuisances*)

It is against the law in the city of Mexico for any person to willfully make, continue or cause to be made or continue to make any loud, unnecessary or unusual noise or any noise which disturbs, injures or endangers the health, peace or safety of others within the city.

Here are a few steps to follow if you find that you are experiencing this type of problem:

1. Call the police

Before you contact MHA, call the police. Try to get the police to come while the noise is occurring. You may call anonymously. You do not have to tell the police dispatcher who you are if you wish not to. The police will respond and will provide the Mexico Housing Authority with an incident report with the nature of the complaint, the address and what was observed. If you are willing to identify yourself, you have the option to sign a formal complaint, however you do not have to if you do not wish. If you do wish to sign a complaint, make sure you tell the dispatcher. The police then will ask you to make a written statement. After the statement is taken, the officer will investigate the complaint and speak with potential witnesses. The officer then will have the option of issuing the perpetrator a summons to appear in court or refer the complaint to the local prosecuting attorney.

This incident report will be the most important and most effective document that will allow MHA to address the situation.

2. Notify MHA

After you have telephoned the police, make a **WRITTEN** complaint to MHA. Verbal complaints will not rectify the problem. You may submit your written complaint anonymously, however will be more effective if you identify yourself in case we need further or more specific information.

If you feel the disturbances are minor or just happened once and do not wish to take the above actions, try talking to your neighbor or the person causing the disturbance. Sometimes people do not realize that perhaps their TV is turned up too loud or their voices are too loud. Do not confront your neighbor angrily. This will only cause further problems. Try casually mentioning that you had a hard time sleeping the night before and ask your neighbor if they would mind keeping the noise down. A good neighbor would appreciate your communication and will most likely be more conscientious in the future.

Finally, if you do decide that it is necessary to call the police make sure you are calling the NON-EMERGENCY number. The number is 473-5800. **DO NOT** call 911 regarding disturbances or other NON-EMERGENCY situations. 9-1-1 is designed for use in only an emergency situation.