

HOME MATTERS

Fall 2019

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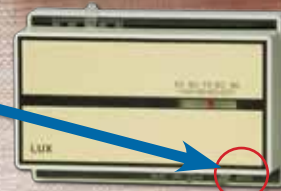
REMINDERS FROM GHA

HVAC Units

- Do not use bleach to clean the cold air return.
- AC should not be lower than 72 degrees.
- Heat should not be higher than 75 degrees.
- Leave the fan on 'Auto'.
- Never use the 'emergency heat' setting.



Always leave the
fan set to AUTO.



Damages can occur from setting the air conditioning too low:

- Can you afford a high utility bill?
- Leaving windows and doors open while unit is running.
- Clogged filters.
- Turning unit off and on.
- Remember: hot air rises and cool air falls.

**If you do not follow these guidelines,
you will run the risk of damaging the property.**

Yard Checks

Maintenance performs yard checks every Tuesday. If your yard does not pass a weekly inspection, you will be charged a \$50 yard charge each time. GHA provides maintenance for residents, but you are responsible for your keeping your yard free of trash.



Maintenance Work Orders

To place a work order during business hours, please call 843-546-9621, ext. 221, and leave your name, phone number, address, and brief description of the problem.



In Case of a Maintenance Emergency

If you have a maintenance emergency after hours, on weekends, or holidays, please call the Maintenance Director at 843-946-0908. The pager will pick up your phone number, and maintenance will return your call as soon as possible.

For a maintenance emergency during business hours, please call 843-546-9621 x221, and leave your name, phone number, address, and brief description of the problem.

A maintenance emergency is anything that threatens the health and safety of the resident or GHA property.

Emergency response is required by HUD guidelines to be within 24 hours and to fix the emergency part of the problem, not repair completely. GHA is NOT responsible for damages to your personal property.

You are advised to purchase Renter's Insurance to cover replacement or repair of your personal items.



**Please do not wait until inspection week to call in work orders.
CALL IN REPAIRS AS NEEDED!**



READY,



SET,



SUCCESS!

The Ready, Set, Success program has been a great success! Every public housing resident has been given the opportunity to earn tickets for awesome prizes. Throughout the year, names will be drawn at the end of each month to reveal a winner. The winner will be contacted to pick up their prize within 5 business days of the drawing!

How to Earn Tickets for Success

- ☐ Pay rent and charges on time.
- ☐ Make repayment agreements when they are due.
- ☐ Keep your yard free of trash and unsightly items.
- ☐ Pass inspections.
- ☐ Be on time for scheduled appointments.
- ☐ Attend resident council monthly meetings and other activities.

READY is the Preparation Step to be Successful!

- Decluttering can do wonders for organizing your apartment and significantly decreases the possibility of having mice and roaches.
- Store dry goods (flour, sugar, pasta, etc.) in tightly closed containers.
- Store grease in refrigerator, do not keep grease in a container on the countertop because it is a perfect breeding ground for roaches.
- Keep it dry! Report all leaks and damages immediately. Many insects and rodents thrive in wet environments and come through holes.



SET a Plan in Place and Follow Through!

- Keep a daily/weekly cleaning schedule to help from getting overwhelmed with tons of household chores on your days off.
- Store or discard food immediately after use. Do not leave food sitting out or uncovered, it is an open invitation for pests!
- Promptly wipe up messes and spills on countertops, stove, and floors.
- Clean up crumbs, trash, and dirt hidden under sofa cushions or bedspreads. It is good practice to eat in designated eating areas and not in bedrooms.
- Clean out the fridge and freezer on a regular basis (weekly cleaning is highly suggested).
- Dispose of trash daily.



SUCCESS is Possible!

- A clean home not only ensures you will pass inspection but also will help get a handle on pest control. Organization has been known to reduce depression and stress levels, improve productivity, and will help you get a more restful sleep.
- Piles of laundry and endless to-dos are exhausting, but they can actually mess with all aspects of your life—not just your daily schedule or orderly home. “At the end of the day, being organized is about having more time for yourself, and enabling you to live a more balanced life,” says Eva Selhub, M.D., author of *Your Health Destiny: How to Unlock Your Natural Ability to Overcome Illness, Feel Better, and Live Longer*. Clearing away the clutter can help you make healthier choices, improve your relationships, and even boost your workout.



Remember, by passing inspections you receive an entry for our monthly Ready, Set, Success! drawing. The more entries you receive, the more chances you have to win!

Congratulations to our **READY, SET, SUCCESS** Winners!

June



Lynnetta Cato
North Street Apts.
Cookware Set

July



Tikesha Merilice
Westside Apts.
Chefman Toaster Oven

August



Janice Ing
Westside Apts.
Cutting Boards & Rice Cooker

Hurricane Season is Upon Us! Are You Ready?

Here are a few tips to help you get prepared:

- ☐ Put your hurricane kit together **NOW** to avoid crowded stores and low supermarket stock.
- ☐ Set up a room in your home as a designated "safe room" in the event of high winds.
- ☐ **KNOW YOUR EVACUATION ZONE!**
 - Westside Apartments – Zone B
 - North Street Apartments – Zone B
 - Maryville South Apartments – Zone A
 - For more information, call 843-545-3900.
- ☐ Update your first aid box, replace expired medicines, and replenish bandages.
- ☐ Keep your cell phone charged- if possible have a battery back-up or solar powered recharger on hand.
- ☐ Keep a full tank of gas in your car.
- ☐ Keep emergency contacts and phone numbers in your hurricane kit.
- ☐ Prepare 1-2 weeks supply of emergency items. These should include flashlights, batteries, bottled water, canned and dry foods, baby food and formula, blankets, cash, credit cards, diapers, change of clothes, toilet paper, soap and shampoo, insurance information, valuable papers, utensils, and paper towels.



In Your Neighborhood Help Your Local Veteran

GHA has partnered with Myrtle Beach Housing Authority, Veteran Affairs of Myrtle Beach, ECHO (Eastern Carolina Homelessness Organization), and the Low Country Veterans Group to offer VASH vouchers to Georgetown County veterans. If you are a veteran, or know a veteran who is homeless or in danger of becoming homeless, let them know there is help!

Veterans interested in learning about the program should contact Kiara Logan, HCV Coordinator, at 843-546-9621 x223, or Christina Woodruff at x227.

Let's give back to those
men and women who served
so courageously for our country!



Let's Celebrate Our Veterans

Ours is a country filled with promise for tomorrow – because ours is a history shaped by heroes who proudly answered their country's call. On **Monday, November 11th 2019**, remember those whom helped to make this world a better place with their courage, sacrifice, and dedication to our country.



Slow Cooker Creamy Hot Chocolate

Stay warm and cozy this holiday season with a nice cup of hot chocolate.

Prep Time: 5 Mins | Cook Time: 2 Hrs
Total Time: 2 Hrs 5 Mins | Servings: 6

Ingredients

- 1/4 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 14 oz can sweetened condensed milk
- 6 cups whole milk
- 2 cups heavy whipping cream
- 2 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 2 cups semi-sweet chocolate chips
- mini marshmallows for serving

Directions

- Heat up a cup of milk, then stir in the cocoa.
- In a 4-quart (or larger) slow cooker, combine the remaining ingredients. Give it a good stir.
- Stir in the warm milk mixture with the rest of the ingredients.
- Cover and cook on low for about 2 hours. Stir occasionally as it warms up.
- It's ready when all the chocolate chips have melted, and mixture is warm.
- Ladle into mugs and top with marshmallows or whipped cream and a mini candy cane!

Notes

- For peppermint hot chocolate, add in a couple of teaspoons of peppermint extract instead of vanilla extract.
- For an adult beverage, try adding some Kahlua, Peppermint Schnapps, or Rum Chata!



Recipe courtesy of thecountrycook.net



Halloween Safety Tips

Halloween is fast approaching and with it, sweets, treats, and all that's scary! Here are some helpful tips to make Halloween safer and less scary.

- S** Swords, knives, and other costume accessories should be short, soft, and flexible.
- A** Avoid trick-or-treating alone. Walk in groups or with a trusted adult.
- F** Fasten reflective tape to costumes and bags to help drivers see you.
- E** Examine all treats for choking hazards and tampering before eating them. Limit the amount of treats you eat.
- H** Hold a flashlight while trick-or-treating to help you see and others see you. WALK and don't run from house to house.
- A** Always test make-up in a small area first. Remove it before bedtime to prevent possible skin and eye irritation.
- L** Look both ways before crossing the street. Use crosswalks wherever possible.
- L** Lower your risk for serious eye injury by not wearing decorative contact lenses.
- O** Only walk on sidewalks whenever possible, or on the far edge of the road facing traffic, to stay safe.
- W** Wear well-fitting masks, costumes, and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips, and falls.
- E** Eat only factory-wrapped treats. Avoid eating homemade treats made by strangers.
- E** Enter homes only if you're with a trusted adult. Only visit well-lit houses. Never accept rides from strangers.
- N** Never walk near lit candles or luminaries. Be sure to wear flame-resistant costumes.



UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

1st – RENT, RETRORENT & REPAYMENT AGREEMENTS DUE
 6th – LATE CHARGES ADDED (morning)
 8th – Board of Commissioners meeting 6:00 pm
 15th – MAGISTRATE (for anyone who hasn't paid their bill)
 24th – GHA office closed to the public

NOVEMBER

1st – RENT, RETRORENT & REPAYMENT AGREEMENTS DUE
 6th – LATE CHARGES ADDED (morning)
 11th – Veteran's Day, GHA office closed
 12th – Board of Commissioners meeting 6:00 pm
 15th – MAGISTRATE (for anyone who hasn't paid their bill)
 25th & 26th – GHA office closed to the public
 27th & 28th – Thanksgiving Holiday, GHA office closed

DECEMBER

1st – RENT, RETRORENT & REPAYMENT AGREEMENTS DUE
 6th – LATE CHARGES ADDED (morning)
 10th – Board of Commissioners meeting 6:00 pm
 15th – MAGISTRATE (for anyone who hasn't paid their bill)
 23rd & 24th – GHA office closed to the public
 25th & 26th – Christmas Holiday, GHA office closed

JANUARY

1st – RENT, RETRORENT & REPAYMENT AGREEMENTS DUE
 1st – New Year's Day, GHA office closed to the public
 6th – LATE CHARGES ADDED (morning)
 14th – Board of Commissioners meeting 6:00 pm
 15th – MAGISTRATE (for anyone who hasn't paid their bill)
 20th – MLK Holiday, GHA office closed
 TBA – GHA office closed to the public

GHA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mr. Kalib Moyer, Board Chair	Ms. Betty Wilson
Mr. Tomas Langley, Vice Chair	Ms. Taneka Deas
Mrs. Christina Woodruff, Secretary	Mr. Nate Fata

GHA MAIN OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday: 8 am – 12 pm & 1 – 6 pm

PHONE DIRECTORY: 843-546-9621

Christina S. Woodruff, Executive Director	ext. 227
Lois Parsons, Front Desk	ext. 221
Johanna Jefferson, Public Housing Manager - AMP1	ext. 230
Alissa Collington, Public Housing Manager - AMP2	ext. 222
Kiara Logan, HCV Coordinator	ext. 223
Katisa Kersey, Administrative Assistant	ext. 237
Joe Geathers, Maintenance Director	ext. 228
B Kisner, Bookkeeper	ext. 224
After hours' emergency work orders	(843) 946-0908
TTY / TDD	(843) 461-3910

Home Matters is published quarterly by the Georgetown Housing Authority. Please send articles to: PO Box 209, Georgetown, SC 29442 by December 1st for the next issue. You may also fax or email Chris Woodruff: (843) 546-9621 ext. 227 / chrisw45@gtownhousing.org. Material is subject to approval at editing.