

Dighton Housing Authority (DHA)

DightonHA.org

MEMORANDUM

TO: Lincoln Village Resident

FROM: Robbie A. DeSouza, Executive Director

DATE: May 5, 2021

RE: **Fire Alarm System Testing**, COVID-19 Update, Misc. Information

I hope everyone is enjoying the warmer weather. With COVID-19 numbers going down, we have developed a new “normal” for now. I believe with time and patience life will get back to our old “normal”. COVID-19 is still dangerous, and we all need to work as a community to keep everyone safe by continuing to practice social distance, wearing a mask, washing your hands often, and sanitizing often. Please remember some residents can not medically get vaccinated and the vaccine is not 100% effective. Stay safe!

As always, if you need assistance with anything please call (508-823-8361) or email (Director@DightonHA.org) and I will do my best to help or try my best to find you the help you need. Below is important dates, updates, and information regarding the Dighton Housing Authority:

- **Fire Alarm Testing: On May 17, 2021, between 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., the contractor and/or Maintenance will need to enter your unit to test parts of the fire alarm system. You do not have to be home but are more than welcome to be home. Home or not DHA and/or the Contractor will enter your unit and complete the necessary tests.**
- Office: The Office is closed to the public. Staff is available by phone (508-823-83621), by email (Director@DightonHA.org), or by appointment.
- Maintenance Work: If you need any work (emergency or non-emergency) done in your apartment please call 508-823-8361 or email Director@DightonHA.org. Currently the DHA is doing emergency and non-emergency work in resident units. If the COVID-19 numbers increase in Dighton, we will go back to emergency only work until the numbers go back down. The Taunton Housing Authority will be assisting DHA with after-hours emergency calls, when maintenance in on vacation, etc.
- Resident Services: The Resident Services Department is committed to working with you to find the resources and services you need for problems or issues you may be experiencing.
 - Ann Sullivan – 508-824-0315 – ASullivan@TauntonHousing.com
- Community Building: The Community Building is open for the following if you practice social distancing and wear a mask: checking your mail, doing your laundry, paying your rent, walking laps, working on the puzzle, knitting, reading, etc. Remember the safest place to have a conversation with your fellow neighbors is outside, but if you do it inside stand/sit far apart (at least 6 feet) with masks on even if all parties have been vaccinated.

- **Annual Unit Inspections:** We are re-starting our Annual Unit Inspection program starting in September 2021. You will receive at least 48 hours written notice of the inspection. Your building will be inspected in the month of:

- September 2021 – F Building	- February 2022 – B Building
- October 2021 – G Building	- March 2022 – C Building
- November 2021 – H Building	- April 2022 – D Building
- January 2022 – A Building	- May 2022 – E Building
- **Masks:** If you need masks please call (508-823-8361) or email me (Director@DightonHA.org).
- **Dighton Food Bank:** The Dighton Food Bank will be at Lincoln Village Community Center on Tuesday, May 18, 2021. Each Building will be assigned a time to come to the food bank, please see below. When you are at the food bank, please practice social distancing and wear a mask. If you have not registered for the Dighton Food Bank, please come by on this day and someone will assist you.

<i>F Building</i>	<i>8:00 a.m. to 8:15 a.m.</i>	<i>B Building</i>	<i>9:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m.</i>
<i>G Building</i>	<i>8:15 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.</i>	<i>C Building</i>	<i>9:15 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.</i>
<i>H Building</i>	<i>8:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.</i>	<i>D Building</i>	<i>9:30 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.</i>
<i>A Building</i>	<i>8:45 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.</i>	<i>E Building</i>	<i>9:45 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.</i>
- **Laundry Room:** Everyone should be considerate of their neighbors and use a maximum of 2 machines at a time. Once you put your laundry in the washer or dryer, if you wait for your laundry, please do so in the big room so we can practice social distancing.
- **Automated (Robo/Robotic) Calls:** The DHA sends out Robo Calls occasionally to let you know of upcoming events, snowplow updates, reminder calls etc. If your number is on the Do Not Call Registry you cannot receive any Robo Calls from DHA. If you would like your name removed from the Do Not Call Registry, let me know and I will get you the form you must complete. I must caution you that if you take your name off the Do Not call Registry the DHA cannot put you back on it and you may start receiving calls from telemarketers.
- **Renters Insurance:** The DHA recommends all residents have Renters Insurance. If there was ever a fire, flood, etc. and damage occurred to your property would not be covered by the Authority or our insurance. I believe it is better to be safe and have it, then be sorry later for not.
- **Bread & Other Donated Items:** Lincoln Village is donated food/bread/veggie's/etc. Most of is donated to St. Vincent DePaul and they are kind enough to share it with us. Many of these items are going to expire soon. It is the responsibility of the person taking the donation to check the date and make sure the item is still good. The DHA, the Dighton Council on Aging, and/or St. Vincent DePaul take no responsibility for the freshness/quality of the food, nor do we check the expiration date to make sure the food has not expired. Please be considerate of your neighbors and take one per household until everyone has a chance to get something. The DHA does not recommend you split bulk/large items up into separate packages at this time due to COVID-19.
- **Flushable Wipes:** Please do not put flushable wipes down the toilet. They eventually will block the drains and will do damage.
- **Resident Advisory Board:** The Board is looking for volunteers to sit on a Resident Advisory Board. The Resident Advisory Board purpose is to advise the Dighton Housing Authority on its Annual Plan and other matters of concern to residents of the Dighton Housing Authority. If you are interested, please call (508-823-8361), or email me (Director@DightonHA.org).

- **COVID-19:** The DHA would appreciate you letting us know immediately by phone (508-823-8361) or by email (Director@DightonHA.org) if you have been exposed to COVID-19 or diagnosed with COVID-19.
- **COVID-19 Homebound Vaccination Program:** If you believe you need an in-home vaccination, please contact the Homebound Vaccination Central Intake Line at 833-983-0485. Representatives are available Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Representatives are available in both English and Spanish and have access to translators for over 100 languages.
- **MassSupport:** MassSupport is the Massachusetts Crisis Counseling Program funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and managed in partnership between the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health and Riverside Trauma Center, a program of Riverside Community Care. MassSupport provides:
 1. Free and confidential counseling for stress and other emotional reactions to the Pandemic in multiple languages
 2. Referral to services
 3. Free mental health screenings on MassSupport website: www.MassSupport.org MassSupport can help you:
 - Take stock of needs
 - Identify solutions
 - Enhance or develop coping strategies
 - Feel heard
 - Understand and manage your reactions
 - Be less stressed
 - Get reliable, fact-based information Contact MassSupport by phone at 1-888-215-4920 or by email at MassSupport@riversidecc.org
- **COVID-19 Information:** Help prevent the spread of COVID-19 by:
 - *Washing your hands often with soap and warm water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
 - *Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth. *Clean things that are frequently touched (like doorknobs and countertops) with household cleaning spray and wipes. *Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze. Use a tissue or your inner elbow, not your hands. *Limit physical contact such as shaking hands. *Limit contact with high touch surface areas such as handrails, doorknobs, etc. *Stay home if you are sick and avoid close contact with others. *Avoid close contact with people who appear sick. *Think ahead about how to take care of yourself and your loved ones.

Attached find a copy of DHAs Lincoln Village Exterior & Grounds policy. If you have any questions or concerns as always, I can be reached by phone (508-823-8361) or by email (Director@DightonHA.org). I want to take this opportunity to thank all the residents for their assistance during an exceedingly difficult time that is slowly getting better!

Sincerely,

Robbie A. DeSouza
Executive Director
FOR THE AUTHORITY

Cc: BOCs/Maintenance Department/Website