



CREATIVE HOUSING CREATIVE RENOVATIONS



New Year... New Keys... New Security!

The Primus Initiative is underway! Over 100 homes have the new locks and lockboxes. Those households have been happy with the new arrangement. If your locks have not yet been changed, we hope you are excited and looking forward to it!

Timely return of forms will ensure the implementation schedule stays on track. Guardians & Providers, please be on the lookout for Primus letters and/or emails. We ask that Guardians return the release form to Creative Housing as soon as possible. Providers, please return your forms and visit us to sign for authorized keys. Feel free to contact us with any questions.

Guardians, if you want a house key for yourself, please be sure to call Jennifer at 614-418-7725 x10 to arrange for a time to get the key at our office.

Many thanks to our Providers and Guardians who have helped with the first rounds of installation. The process has been smooth and we are grateful for your patience and cooperation.

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Happy Holidays from Creative Housing/Creative Renovations

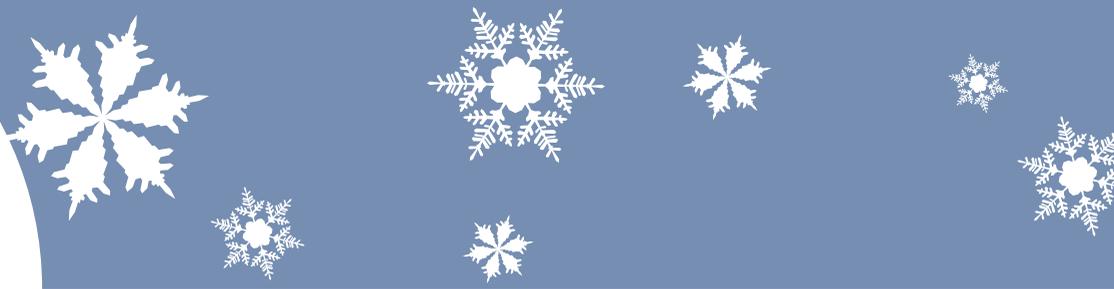


CREATIVE HOUSING CREATIVE RENOVATIONS

Jason Sherman
Joins Creative
Housing|Creative
Renovations



We couldn't be happier to introduce Jason to everyone. You may have already met him at your home during routine inspections. He manages construction projects and is responsible for completing projects on time and within budget, while meeting quality and design expectations. He is also helping us continue to search out and implement the use of new, durable products in our homes. Before joining Creative Housing|Creative Renovations, he had eighteen years of experience with a local architectural firm specializing in multi-family and specialized housing.



Do your part to support the added security of the *Primus Initiative*

If authorized, a provider will have a key tethered in a lockbox by the main door. Operating the Primus lockbox is easy. Below are easy instructions. Remember – always close and secure the lockbox after every use!

Primus Initiative Lockbox Operation

To Open:

1. Flip down weather protective cover
2. Press reset button to clear any numbers that may have been previously pressed
3. Press numeric code on keypad
4. Push down on finger latch to release front of lockbox.

To Close:

1. Press reset button to clear any numbers that may have been previously pressed
2. Press numeric code on keypad
3. Push down on finger latch (keep it pushed down) and close the lockbox.
4. Release the finger latch to engage the lock.
5. Flip up weather protective cover.

To Start Over:

Press reset button to clear any numbers that may have been previously pressed



Maintenance Call *Reminders*

Emergency Repairs: Emergency repairs will be responded to the same day as called into our office at 614.418.7725. During non-business hours, an answering service will contact our on-call representatives for emergencies. PLEASE DO NOT CALL AFTER HOURS WITH NON-EMERGENCY REQUESTS. ONLY EMERGENCIES WILL BE SERVICED AFTER REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS OR ON HOLIDAYS.

Non-Emergency Repairs can be reported 24/7 electronically:

Visit our website: www.creativehousing.org and select "SERVICE REQUEST" on the top menu.

OR email us any time of day at maintenance@creativehousing.org.

Both of these methods are great ways to include photos to help describe any issue you are reporting.



CREATIVE HOUSING

CREATIVE RENOVATIONS

Snow Removal

Creative Housing removes snow/ice only at apartment sites with 3 or more units when there is an accumulation of 2" or more. If you live in a single family home or duplex, please remember to shovel walks and drives at your home.



Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it *Snow...*

Winter is rapidly approaching, and soon we may have snow covering the ground. Since most of our properties are responsible for clearing their own snow, and snow shoveling can cause stress on your back we wanted to offer a few tips to alleviate the strain:

- Choose a snow shovel that is right for you. A curved handle enables you to keep your back straighter when shoveling. A plastic shovel blade will be lighter than a metal one, and sometimes a smaller blade is better because it prevents you from trying to shovel too much at one time.
- Push the snow, do not try to lift it.
- Stretch your muscles before you begin. Cold, tight muscles are more likely to be sprained or strained.
- Never throw snow over your shoulder. Wet snow can be very heavy and a full shovel can weigh as much as 25 pounds.
- Pace yourself by taking frequent breaks to gently stretch your back, arms and legs.

Looking for a way to reduce the need for shoveling...

Using approved salt mix during lighter snowfalls will help melt snow so you will have less to shovel.

- When the snow starts, evenly spread a layer of approved salt mix on sidewalks and driveway to start the melting process.
- When snow starts to accumulate, evenly spread another layer of salt mix on sidewalks and driveway. Repeat as needed.
- Approved salt mixes permitted to use at Creative Housing properties: Blue Heat, Halite, Subzero Solid Ice Melt, Happy Paws Ice Melt (pet friendly). Rock salt is prohibited as it will damage concrete and lawns.

Holiday *safety* Tips

Decorations: Choose those made with flame-resistant, flame retardant, and non-combustible materials.

Holiday Lighting: Inspect new and used lighting. Replace damaged bulbs before using them. Do not use frayed or damaged wiring.

Trees: Use artificial trees to avoid live tree hazards. Please remember we do not allow extension cords.

Traveling Away from Home? Ask a neighbor to keep an eye on your house. Put timers on different lights throughout the interior and exterior of the house. Have newspapers, mail and deliveries held or picked up by someone you trust.



Since 1992

Why not to overload your washer...

At some point or another, we've all overloaded the washing machine. Rather than washing two small loads, for instance, we shove everything into a single, oversized load. While this may save you some time initially, it will ultimately come back to haunt you. Here's why you should never overload your washing machine...

Damages Garments- When washing machines are run beyond their normal load capacity, zippers, buttons and other embellished accessories can latch on to nearby garments, causing permanent damage to the fabric.

Leaves Garments Dirty- Managing loads so that they're appropriately sized according to your washer's capacity will ensure proper circulation of detergent. Detergent needs space to move around; otherwise, it will remain clumped up where it's unable to access all of the garments.

Damages The Washing Machine- When you overload your washing machine, you put extra strain on your appliance which could cause premature failure. Because everything's rammed into the drum, clothes won't be free to move around and get evenly clean.

Repair Cost- We make every effort to keep costs down for our tenants. When an appliance is damaged by something that could have been avoided, the service call and repair could be passed on to staff and/or tenants.

Am I Overloading My Washing Machine? Load capacities vary depending on the manufacturer, size and model of the washing machine. With that said, a good rule of thumb is to provide a minimum of 6" between the drum and top layer of garments. How long is 6"? About the length of a dollar bill.



Always leave 6 inches space between the top of the washer drum and the top layer of garments.



Never washer comforters or pillows at home: Bulky items like these should be taken to the laundromat or professionally cleaned.

From the Leasing Department

Snow season is here... are you prepared? Did you know that Creative Housing's Tenants and Providers are responsible for the snow removal at most homes? Let's be prepared and have those concrete-safe snowmelts and shovels ready.

The holidays are just around the corner, we hope everyone has a happy holiday with your family and friends. Don't forget to share your pictures with us by sending them to frontdesk@creativehousing.org.



New Neighbors: We would like to welcome the following new tenants into our Creative Housing homes:

Kayleigh M.	Brynn G.
Kenny L.	Jerri S.
Clifford S.	Deborah W.
Jejuan T.	



From the Desks of our Rent Subsidy Department...

The Creative Housing Private Rent Subsidy Department would like to introduce our new administrative assistant, Penney Fowler. We are excited for you to get to know our newest team member, so if you get a call from Penney, please introduce yourself and welcome her aboard.

What's Happening in Creative Renovations

Our Creative Renovations Team continues to provide safe, accessible renovations and equipment to clients in Central Ohio through Medicaid waivers and private pay. Over 300 projects have been completed so far this year. We are continuing our commitment to educating the community on how accessible modifications can help you or loved ones continue to safely live at home for as long as possible. We presented at Downsize Columbus Transition Tuesdays and the Ohio Occupational Therapy Association Conference. We are also giving back to the community, donating a ramp to Best Buddies and collaborating with Ohio State Engineers for Community Service. If we can be of service to you or a loved one, visit and share our website accessibilityrenovations.org or email projects@creativehousing.org.



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Creative Housing, Inc.
2233 Citygate Dr.
Columbus, Ohio 43219



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Spread the word

If you know someone who would like to receive this newsletter or be added to our electronic mailing list, please let us know. Also, we welcome articles, advertisements and opinions by Creative Housing tenants. Send items for consideration to:

Creative Housing, Inc.
2233 Citygate Dr., Columbus, Ohio 43219

Building Beyond Accessibility.

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