



**CREATIVE
HOUSING**
**CREATIVE
RENOVATIONS**

Since 1992

Happy Holidays

from Creative Housing/Creative Renovations

In this Issue

Telephone Service	2
Maintenance Contact	2
Snow Removal	2
Enjoy Your Home	3
Holiday Tips	3
Enjoy Your Community	4
Word Search	4
Cookie Recipe	5
2020 Census	5

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It seems that every year goes by faster and faster... It's hard to believe that it's already Holiday Season 2019. Our staff pulled together some fun ideas for you in this newsletter. I hope all of you have a chance to slow things down a bit during the holidays. This is a time to pause and enjoy each other, along with things both big & small that are good in our lives.

I'm grateful to have this opportunity to say thank you to all of you... tenants, clients, families & guardians, provider staff, county board staff and Creative Housing|Creative Renovations staff. The simple truth of our journey together is that it's based on mutual respect for and value of each other individually and collectively. If we can find a way to slow down and find something meaningful in that simplicity, our days may be a bit more promising and hopeful.

We bought our first home in June 1992. Now, we support over 1,500 tenants in over 556 Creative Housing homes and 150 private landlord locations. In the early days, connecting with one another in person was more commonplace than in today's electronic age. I am committed to continuing this holiday's "slow down to appreciate" effort and making time to get to know as many of you as possible. I'd like to extend an invitation to anyone who may want to meet with me to contact the office to arrange for a chat.

Looking forward to sharing many more holidays and memories with you...

Crittty Buenconsejo

President|CEO



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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.



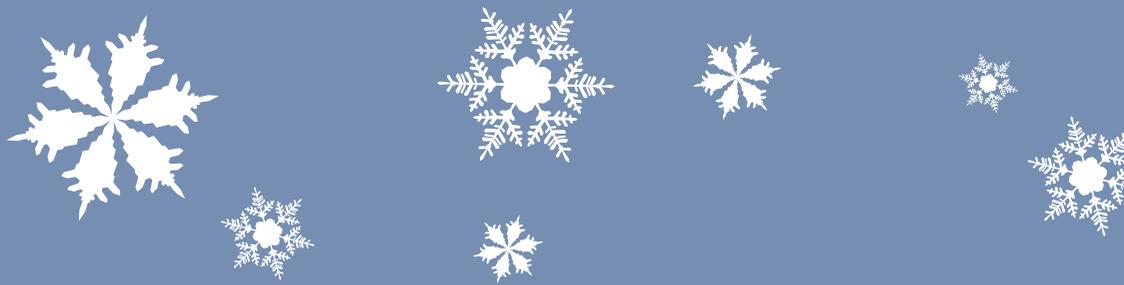
Approved salt mixes

for CH Properties:

- Blue Heat
- Halite
- Subzero Solid Ice Melt
- Happy Paws Ice Melt (pet friendly)

*Please note that rock salt is prohibited as it is damaging to concrete and lawns

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From The *Leasing Department* . . .

The holiday season is a great time to catch up with friends and family. You might even consider bundling your phone, internet and cable services to save some money! Before you do that, please notify our office of your intention to change phone service providers. Your home phone line is connected to your fire alarm system and we need to ensure that there is not a lapse in alarm reporting. By notifying Creative Housing of changes or possible interruptions we can work with you to ensure your safety and to eliminate any potential reconnection fees you could incur. Your safety is our top priority!

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.

Did You know?...

You can use your assistive technology devices to assist you with the holidays and the winter season. Use your smart devices to check the weather before leaving home so you can dress adequately and prepare for the day's weather conditions. If your device has a timer, use it to help with preparing your holiday foods- you don't want burnt cookies! You can even use some devices to listen to music- you could listen to holiday music to help with holiday cheer. If you have Assistive Technology needs or questions, please contact Creative Renovations and we would be happy to help! Reach us 614.418.7725 ext. 25 or projects@creativehousing.org

Enjoy Your *Home* This Season

- **Read a book-** visit the local library and find a new book or audio-book to curl up with during those cold frosty days!
- **Work a jigsaw puzzle-** find a bright and cheery puzzle to brighten up those cold blustery days!
- **Exercise-** check out YouTube for a variety of free exercise routines, for all skill levels, to help keep you healthy and active during these winter months!
- **Bake something-** find a new recipe and try out your culinary skills!
- **Assemble a gingerbread house-** you can buy a kit or even use items from your own pantry to create an edible house or even a whole town!
- **Deep cleaning-** if you're staying in to avoid the cold, you could spend time organizing, cleaning or even rearranging your home! Put up some new art, or even create your own!
- **Popcorn and a Movie-** snuggle in under a cozy blanket and enjoy a movie and some snacks!
- **Write a Letter-** keep in touch with friends and family in the traditional form of letter writing! Don't forget to send out your holiday cards too!

Holiday *Do's* and *Don't's*

Tis the season for holiday dinners.

DON'T: Line drip pans with tin foil it is not a safe fix to avoid the cleanup. This practice can cause overheating which can catch the aluminum foil on fire.

DO: Routinely clean your drip pans. Once the pans start to rust, they should be replaced. The good news is they should be readily available for purchase at your local hardware or grocery store.

TIP: when your elements and drip pans are removed for cleaning, don't forget to lift up the top of your range and clean under the hood as well.

After dinner you may have some extra dishes.

DON'T: Put food-caked dishes into the dishwasher.

DO: Scrape extra food off dishes into the trash before putting them in the dishwasher.

TIP: Run the hot water in your sink **BEFORE** starting the dishwasher. This allows for the dishwasher to reach maximum water temperature for the best clean.



Trying to make room for guests or decorations?

DON'T: Block windows and doors in the house. Windows and doors must have clear access in each room of the home to allow for exit in case of emergency.

DO: Store extra items in an organized tote in the basement or storage area. Think about donating unwanted items to a local charity for people in need.

TIP: The Creative Housing maintenance team is always happy to answer questions if you aren't sure if you have blocked egress.

Enjoy Your *Community* This Season

- **Bicentennial Park and Columbus Commons-** Free Christmas lights display; carousel rides and activities are scheduled throughout the winter! Check their schedule of events for details.
- **Anthony Thomas Chocolate Factory-** Visit the factory on Tuesdays or Thursdays for a tour to see how some of your favorite treats are made! Admission is \$2.
- **State Auto Christmas Corner-** Take a stroll through this free life-sized nativity scene downtown. On weekends enjoy Christmas choirs and hot chocolate!
- **Visit an Art Gallery-** Monday-Friday you can visit Open Door Art Gallery in Grandview and on the weekend visit the Columbus Museum of Art- Sundays are free admission!
- **The Ohio Statehouse-** Take a free tour of the Statehouse- no appointment necessary for self-guided tours or call to schedule a tour with a guide!
- **Visit Santa-** Many local malls and retailers have Christmas displays, holiday events and even have Santa on-site! Check with your mall and neighborhood stores!

From the Desk of *Rent Subsidy*...

The Rent Subsidy Department would like to thank all of our tenants as well as our landlords in making 2019 a wonderful year! We are now serving over 600 tenants and working with over 150 landlords.

Just a reminder, please make sure you check your furnace filter and smoke detectors and that they are in good working order. Please contact your landlord if you need these items checked for you!



Winter Wordsearch

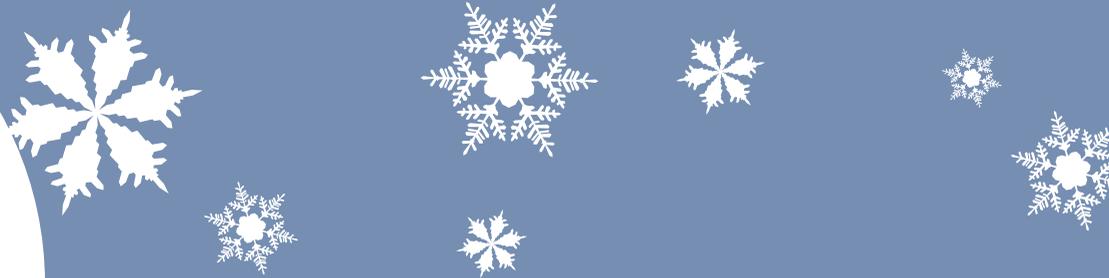
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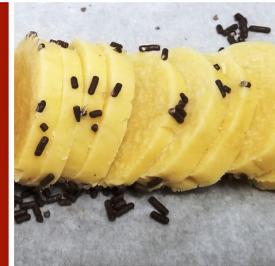


We want to make everyone aware that the 2020 United States Census is coming up! We encourage you all to participate in the upcoming census. Did you know that federal funds are distributed to states and counties based on population? Federal funds help fund Medicaid Waivers, ICFs and other social service programs. Be sure you are counted!



BUTTER COOKIES

- 1 CUP** butter
- 2 CUPS** all-purpose flour
- 1 CUP** confectioners' sugar
- 1 PINCH** salt



INSTRUCTIONS

- Step 1: Wash your hands and clean your work area.
- Step 2: In a large bowl, add the butter, flour and sugar. Combine with your hands. (note- the consistency will be similar to pie crust)
- Step 3: Remove dough from bowl, on parchment paper roll the dough into a log. The log should be 2" in diameter or less.
- Step 4: Refrigerate dough for one hour
- Step 5: Pre-heat oven to 350 degrees
- Step 6: Remove log from refrigerator, slice log into 1/4" pieces. Place slices onto cookie sheet.
- Step 7: Bake in oven for 10-12 minutes
- Step 8: Remove cookies from oven and place on cooling rack
- Step 9: Let cool and enjoy!



TIPS: YOU CAN ADD VANILLA OR ALMOND EXTRACT TO ENRICH THE FLAVOR. YOU CAN ALSO ROLL THE LOG OF DOUGH IN SPRINKLES, NUTS OR OTHER PREFERRED TOPPING BEFORE REFRIGERATING.

Would you like to be featured in a future Newsletter?

We are always looking for opportunities to include our tenants! Email your photos and stories to frontdesk@creativehousing.org for a chance to be featured in our Summer Newsletter!





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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:

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