



north pacific rim housing authority

NPRHA NEWS

APRIL — MAY, 2010

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News from the Director

NPRHA is gearing up for spring and a very busy summer, with projects starting soon in many communities around the region. This is always one of our busiest times of the year—getting materials and supplies ready to be shipped out for our construction and modernization activities and finalizing plans and schedules for all of our summer work.

NPRHA’s modernization crews will be busy in Seward completing the roofing and landscaping at our Bear Mountain apartment complex to complete a multi-year renovation of the complex. This project included complete interior and exterior renovations of the units. The crews will also be starting work on new boiler rooms for our Chenega Bay Mutual Help homes and other projects around the region in the coming months.

NPRHA’s Weatherization program is also now in full swing, with work going on in Port Graham now on the first projects, and materi-

als arriving on site soon for projects in Nanwalek and Tatitlek. We are in the process of selecting the next group of families that will receive assistance under the program and will be completing assessments this summer on those homes that will have work done this fall.

New construction will also be a major focus for us this summer. We are constructing a new home and a Behavioral Health and Wellness Center in Port Graham in the Duncan Heights subdivision. Both projects will utilize local crews. Bids are out for a new triplex and office building in Nanwalek, to be constructed this fall.

The contractor, West Construction, that will be completing the renovation of the small boat harbor in Chenega Bay is scheduled to be on site in May and work should be completed to fully refurbish the facility and add a new sea plane float by July of this year. This project was funded by the Denali Commission and will signifi-



cantly improve and extend the life of the facility so that it can continue to be an asset for the residents of Chenega long into the future.

NPRHA is in the process of applying for funding for two exciting projects under the USDA Community Facility Grant Program. The proposals would fund the balance of the Kelly House project in Tatitlek and a Youth Activity Center in Nanwalek to coordinate their youth and cultural programs. The applications are being submitted soon and, if successful, the projects would both be built this summer.

I hope that everyone is enjoying spring and the warmer weather and longer days leading up to summer. I plan on traveling to all of the communities in the region this summer and look forward to seeing everyone.

AHFC Lyman Weatherization Program

"The AHFC Lyman Weatherization Program . . . is a State funded program, not federal, and the requirements are different than they have been under other programs."

Walking can add years to your life and life to your years! And, it couldn't be easier. You don't need to join a health club, wear special equipment or go into training to reap the rewards. Walking conditions your heart and lungs. It reduces your risk of some forms of cancer and osteoporosis. Walking is easy on your joints, unlike jogging, and on your mind, too. On Earth Day, make it a plan to go out and walk and visit our planet! It's good for you, too.

North Pacific Rim Housing Authority is a provider of Weatherization assistance through the AHFC Lyman Weatherization Program. Although we have offered weatherization services in the past to homebuyers of our Mutual Help program, the AHFC sponsored program is different. If you remember, or ever applied for the HIP program through Chugachmiut and received services, the AHFC program is different from that one, too!

You might say that all of these options are confusing, and wonder why there are so many different programs out there. Yes, it can be confusing, and multiple programs exist because many organizations are working to provide better housing throughout our Region. You may have filled out other weatherization applications, but not received services. Remember, this is a new program and is separate

from any other weatherization program you may have applied for in the past.

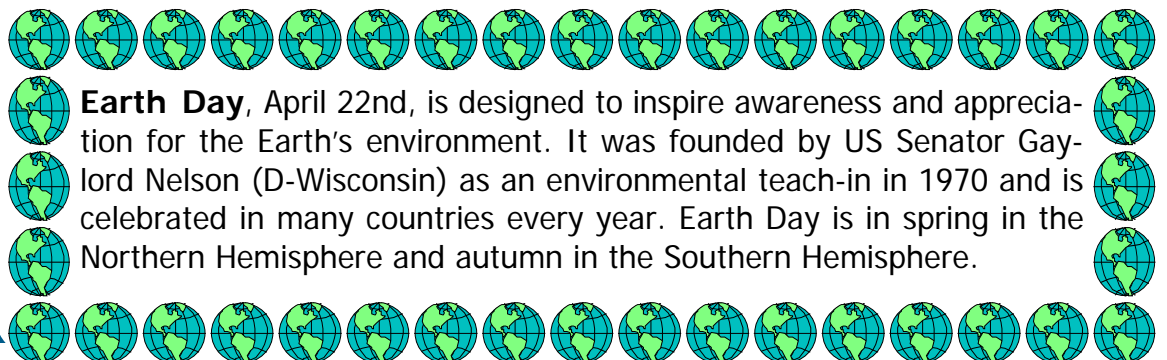
So, what should you do if you need weatherizing of your home?

- When the application period for weatherization in your community is open, fill out a NPRHA Weatherization application for funding under the AHFC Lyman Weatherization Program. This is a State-funded program, not federal, and the requirements are different than they have been under the other programs.
- Submit your application before the deadline. As always, timeliness and completeness allow for speedier processing of an application.
- Your application will be reviewed for qualification and ranked for need.
- If your application is

complete, you will be notified of your qualifying status. If not complete, you will be asked to supply additional information before your status can be determined.

Qualifying applicants will be scheduled for a blower door assessment. The results from the home evaluation will be used to make an individualized action plan, materials will be procured and sent to the village, and a labor force will be scheduled to perform the necessary tasks. After the work is completed, a second blower door assessment will be performed to document the improvement achieved.

If your home is in need of weatherization work, don't hesitate to fill out and return an application. If you have questions about the process or the application itself, you can contact Brenda at 1.888.274.1444.



Earth Day, April 22nd, is designed to inspire awareness and appreciation for the Earth's environment. It was founded by US Senator Gaylord Nelson (D-Wisconsin) as an environmental teach-in in 1970 and is celebrated in many countries every year. Earth Day is in spring in the Northern Hemisphere and autumn in the Southern Hemisphere.

SAVE ENERGY, SAVE CASH

All of us use energy every day. The choices we make about how we use energy — turning machines off when we're not using them or choosing to buy energy efficient appliances — impact our environment and our lives.

Energy conservation is any behavior that results in the use of less energy. Turning the lights off when you leave the room and recycling aluminum cans are both ways of conserving energy.

Energy efficiency is the use of technology that requires less energy to perform the same function. A compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL) that uses less energy than an incan-

descent bulb to produce the same amount of light is an example of energy efficiency. However, the decision to replace an incandescent light bulb with a compact fluorescent is an act of energy conservation

TIPS:

- Turn off lights when not in use, fix leaky faucets, switch to CFLs and energy efficient appliances, and recycle whenever possible.
- A tap leaking one drop of water per second wastes more than six and a half gallons of water a day—2,375 gals per year!



- Using a bucket of water to clean the car instead of running water through a hose saves about 80 gallons of water . . . each time!
- It almost always takes less energy to make a product from recycled materials than it does to make it from new materials. Using recycled aluminum scrap to make new aluminum cans, for example, uses 95% less energy than making aluminum cans from bauxite ore, the raw material used to make aluminum.
- Making a ton of paper from recycled paper saves up to 17 trees and uses 50% less water.



Housing Management News

WEATHERIZATION

Everyone who has applied for weatherization with NPRHA needs to send in their 2009 IRS returns, or sign an IRS Authorization form which is available at all NPRHA offices. Letters have been sent to applicants in Port Graham requesting this information, and Nanwalek applicants were contacted directly by your on-site Manager requesting updates. This request was also made of applicants who were previously determined to be ineligible due to households being over income. Here is another chance for you to qualify.

When you fill out the application, be sure that all information is entered correctly and that you have included all necessary documentation. If you need assistance fill-

ing out your application, please call your local, on-site office Manager or me, Brenda, at 1.888.274.1444. If applications are complete when they are received, the process is much quicker. Please continue to send in the requested information so we can move forward on your application.

PFD ASSIGNMENT OF RIGHTS

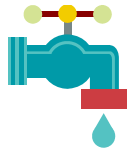
If your account is in arrears, now is the time to assign your PFD to NPRHA. You may either pick up a form at any NPRHA office or call and have one emailed or faxed to you. It is very important to make your monthly payments and to keep your account current, even though you may have assigned one or more PFDs.

As with all requests, local NPRHA staff are always there to help you with questions or completing forms. If you are not able to go to your local office due to hardship, call the office and the Manager will be more than willing to come to you.

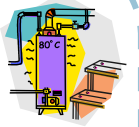
HEATING ASSISTANCE

Heating Assistance applications are accepted between October 1st and April 30th of each year. If you are legally disabled or at least 60 years old, applications can be accepted as early as September. Subsidized Rental Housing Utility Deposits are accepted throughout the year.

NPRHA's on-site Managers can download an application for you upon your request, and can assist you in filling it out.



Maintenance Department News



EARTH DAY 2010

Your family or group can celebrate Earth Day by:

1. Planting trees.
2. Creating a community garden.
3. Going for a hike in an endangered area.
4. Coordinating a household hazardous waste collection in your community.
5. Cleaning up a nearby pond, river or stream.



Spring cleaning. It is not only a fresh start for the warmer seasons, but a health and safety check for your homes and your family. Here are few good tips to keep in mind while you are cleaning out those closets, dusting off the shelves and gently putting your lives back in order after those "cabin fever" days of winter.

INDOORS:

- Check and clean the clothes dryer vent and your oven range hood.

Clean vents will extend your dryer's life, as well as dry your clothes more quickly. Most range hoods have a filter that you can clean in the sink.

- Clean and vacuum the coils in the back of your refrigerator; do this twice a year.

Efficiency is the name of the game, again, when this simple cleaning procedure is done!

- Clean or change your Heat Recovery Ventilation (HRV) filters.

Most can be washed in the sink.

- Drain your water heater with a garden hose to flush out sediment from the bottom of the heater.

Sediment build up can damage the tank and cause it to rust prematurely. It can also damage the heating coils.

- Repair and/or replace window screens.

Repair kits and make-your-own-screen kits can be purchased at Home Depot.

OUTDOORS:

- Remove any green mold that has accumulated on your siding.

There are products at Lowe's and Home Depot that can be used to re-

move and inhibit future growth.

- Pressure wash your siding.

Check with your local NPRHA office. Most have a pressure washer available to homebuyers for sign out.

- Replace any missing or damaged siding.

You want to avoid moisture build up, mold and other damage to your foundation and home.

- Check outdoor hose bibs and faucets to make sure water flows freely, making repairs as necessary.

Dripping faucets and leaking could be a signal that a pipe had frozen and cracked over the winter. Turning on that water source the first time in the spring could spell disaster.

- Check and repair chimney supports, replace missing chimney and boiler caps and check roofs for damage.

Spring weather brings with it an increase in rain. A leaky roof may go unnoticed, not always causing a drip within the home, but causing a lot of damage to joists and framework in the ceiling. Fix that roof now!

- Remove garbage and any junk vehicles in the yard.

According to subdivision covenants, a non-moving vehicle "shall not be located on a lot for a period of more than one (1) month," and NPRHA is obligated to enforce that policy!

Personal and community spring cleaning are great ways to refresh yourself and make a commitment to a greener, healthier earth. Get out and clean up!

RIDDLES OF THE SEASON

1. Where does the Easter bunny go for breakfast?
2. What season is it when you are on a trampoline?
3. How does a rabbit keep his fur looking good?

All NPRHA offices will be closed:

May 31st: Memorial Day

Squigly's Secret Code

Directions:

Each letter has a symbol, to decipher the answer to Squigly's secret code just print the letter on the line given, that goes with the symbol. Good Luck.

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Answers to Riddles
 1. I-Hop. 2. Spring-time. 3. With a hare brush and hare spray.
 Secret Code: Let's all work together to make our world a cleaner and safer place to live.



Happy Spring!!

“ . . . the Census Bureau will not contact you by email, so be on the lookout for email scams impersonating the Census.”



Cordova snowstorm on March 8th, quickly piling up again after snow removal.

HOMEOWNERS !!!

CONGRATULATIONS to the following homebuyers who have now become homeowners!

Charles and Virginia Moonin in Nan-walek.

UPCOMING EVENTS
April 1—April Fool’s Day
Apr 2 — Good Friday
Apr 4— Easter/Pascha
April 15—Federal Taxes Due
April 21—Administrative Professionals Day
April 22—Earth Day
May 9— Mother’s Day
May15 Armed Forces Day
May 31—Memorial Day

2010 U S Census Cautions from the Better Business Bureau

If a U S Census worker knocks on your door, they will have a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see their identification and their badge before answering their questions.

Census workers are currently only knocking on doors to verify address information. Do not give your social security number, credit card or banking information to anyone, even if they claim they need it for the U S Census. **The Census Bureau does need, nor does it want, personal financial information.**

- REMEMBER, NO MATTER WHAT THEY ASK, YOU REALLY ONLY NEED TO TELL THEM HOW MANY PEOPLE LIVE AT YOUR ADDRESS.
- YOU DON'T HAVE TO ANSWER ANYTHING AT ALL ABOUT YOUR FINANCIAL SITUATION.

Eventually, Census workers may contact you by phone, mail or in person at home. However, the Census Bureau will not contact you by email, so be on the lookout for email scams impersonating the Census.

Earth Day marks the start of the environmental movement. But as the global warming crisis grows, no one can afford to limit their attention to our planet to just a single day. Consider, according to NASA, that 2007 was the second hottest year on record globally . . . that the coverage of thicker, older Arctic sea ice has continued to shrink dramatically . . . that as many as 37% of plant and animal species could be wiped out by 2050 due to climate change.



Modernization Department News



Spring-like weather will soon see the Mod crew at work in Seward. Roofing work remains to be done on two buildings at Bear Mountain Apartments. Also to be completed is the proposed landscaping and playground improvements. All of these projects are weather dependent, but we are pretty sure Mother Nature is on her way to giving us the good weather we need.

As was done in Port Graham, Seward, Tatitlek and Valdez, boilers will be moved to an exterior boiler room at Mutual Help homes in Chenega. Letters of authorization have been sent via postal mail to all of our homebuyers in Chenega. It is necessary for you to approve this work if you want it done. You need to sign and return the Authorization Form or else the work will not

be completed at your home. We can assure you that participation in this boiler relocation will not extend your MHOA, nor will it cost anything for you, the homebuyer. So, sign and return your form today.

Weatherization work has begun in Port Graham. In general, all weatherization work can be performed on a house while your family lives there. You and your family will be asked to put in sweat equity for this project, however, as the labor force is only able to perform the work assigned to it. This means that you and your family may be asked to clear items from the walls to the center of a room and return the same after the work is finished.

Did You Know?

- More than one billion Easter eggs are hunted in the US each year.
- Pysanky, eggs decorated with a wax-resist method, are generally attributed to Ukrainians, although many other Slavic cultures produce similar styles of egg decorating.



- Americans spend two billion dollars on Easter candy, and eat 7.1 billion pounds of Easter candy each year!
- The most popular Easter candy, after chocolate eggs, is marshmallow peeps. 600 million are sold each year!
- Easter colors have special meaning: **RED** is a symbol of love and sacrifice; **WHITE** signifies purity and grace; **GREEN**, the color of grass, brings rays of hope; **PUR-**

PLE is indicative of royalty and brings wealth; **YELLOW** is the color that brings joy and happiness; **BLACK** signifies darkness and the evil side; **ORANGE**, associated with the dawn of day, represents hope; and **PINK** indicates a fresh beginning.



- Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia began the campaign for an official Mother's Day celebration. On May 14, 1914, President Woodrow Wilson made Mother's Day a national holiday.
- The odds of a woman delivering twins is 1 in 33. her odds of having triplets or other multiple births is approximately 1 in 539.



- The highest officially recorded number of children born to one mother is 69, to the first wife of Feodor Vassilyev

(1707—1872) of Shuya, Russia. Between 1725 and 1765, in a total of 27 pregnancies, she gave birth to 16 pairs of twins, seven sets of triplets, and four sets of quadruplets. 67 of the children survived infancy.

- The carnation is the symbol of Mother's Day.
- There are about 83 million American mothers and 53 % of U S mothers with infants work for pay.
- Memorial Day is a day of commemoration of those who have died fighting for the freedom of every American.
- On Memorial Day, Old Glory should be at flown at half-mast until noon, then she should be raised to fly at full mast.
- Red poppies are recognized as the Memorial Day flower.





north pacific rim housing authority

8300 King Street
Anchorage, AK 99518

Phone: 907.562.1444
Fax: 907.562.1445
Toll Free: 1.888.274.1444
Email: cheryl@nprha.com

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Mission Statement

It is our mission to provide safe, sanitary and affordable housing for tribal members and members of the Native community, to promote responsible home ownership, rental units, transient housing, Elder housing and other special needs housing and community programs; to develop and manage housing based upon the needs of our local communities.

NPRHA Staff

Executive Department:

Olen Harris—Executive Director

Administrative Services Department:

Barry Moring—Chief Financial Officer
Amanda Trangmoe—Controller
Crystal Barr—Administrative Assistant/Payroll/AP
Karen Relph—Administrative Assistant
Maria Geiger—Administrative Assistant
Yvonne Krenzela—Accounting Services Consultant

Housing Services Department:

Brenda Christoffersen—Housing Manager
Cheryl Andrew—Housing Services Specialist
Danielle Deer—Seward Regional Housing Manager
Emilie Swenning—Nanwalek Rental Manager
Ron Hewitt—LR Maint/Village Coordinator (Tatitlek)
Kenneth Michener—LR Maint/Village Coordinator (CB)

Lennette Ronnegard—Cordova Village Manager
Vacant—Valdez Rental Manager

Building Services Department:

Jon Austermuhl—Building Services Manager
Carl McClarrinon—LR Maint/Village Coordinator (PG)
John Boone—Valdez Rental Maintenance
Larry Perri—Seward Rental Maintenance
Mike Conway—LR / MH Maintenance Supervisor
Ralph Bullis—Cordova Rental Maintenance
Sebastian Demas—Nanwalek Rental Maintenance
Walter Wilson—LR / MH Maintenance Supervisor

Modernization Department:

Randy Norman—Modernization Manager
Art Carlough—Procurement Assistant
Ernie Berestoff—Procurement Assistant/Expeditor
Tia Wakolee—Procurement Specialist