



ECO Housing Newsletter

Bebookwedaagimi Giizis—Broken Snowshoe Moon



Bed bug reports on the rise again

The very mention of a bed bug gets a lot of people itching. Bed bugs only feed on blood. Under cool conditions, bed bugs have been able to survive up to a year without a meal. They prefer to be more active at night when the host is asleep. Often found in hotels, where they can travel from room to room and in visitors' luggage or other personal belongings such as purses and briefcases. It's possible to pick up bed bugs almost any place—they've infested offices, stores, hotels, gyms and countless other places. They can hide in your luggage, personal belongings, or even on you, and hitchhike a ride back to your home, townhouse or apartment. Once indoors, they can be extremely difficult to control without the help of an experienced pest specialist. Found in cracks and crevices, including **mattress seams**, sheets, furniture, behind baseboards, electrical outlet plates and picture frames. When at home, follow these handy tips to help keep bed bugs at bay.



Remove all clutter from your home, which makes finding bed bugs easier. Wash and dry your bed linens often using the hottest temperature allowed for the fabric. Closely inspect any second-hand/garage sale furniture for bed bugs **before you bring it into your residence**. Inspect your residence regularly—after a move-in, a trip, when a service worker comes in or guests stay overnight. **Think You Might Have a Bed Bug Infestation?** Notify us immediately so we can begin to devise a customized treatment for your bed bugs. Bed bugs can multiply quickly, so early detection is critical to help prevent an even larger infestation.

ON-CALL MAINTENANCE:

The Maintenance Department has a pager for tenants to contact the on-call person after normal working hours. They will **only** respond to **Emergency** calls during non-working hours. Other calls can be phoned into the Housing Office during regular business hours, Monday through Friday 8:00 to 4:30.

The Pager # is 715-798-1594.

THE IMPORTANCE OF CHANGING YOUR FURNACE FILTER

When was the last time you thought about your home's furnace filter? If you haven't replaced your air filter in a while, now is the time to think about it. We want you to have a system that runs as cleanly and efficiently as possible. Air filter replacement is an important part of this. Here are some reasons why replacing your furnace filter is crucial to your home's comfort and your HVAC system's efficiency and how you can help.

1. A Clogged Filter Makes an Inefficient System

- You need to replace your furnace filter to help your system run as efficiently as possible. When the air filter is clogged with dust, dirt, and grime, your furnace and AC have to work twice as hard to move air through your home.
- This will **drive up your energy bills**, increasing your carbon footprint and draining your budget. Replacing the air filter is quick, easy, and effective.

2. Dirty Air Filters are not Good for Your Health

- A dirty air filter allows dust, dander, and even mold to keep circulating through your home. This means your family will breathe these things in, which can make asthma, allergies, and other respiratory concerns much worse.
- A clean air filter is better able to trap these contaminants, so your family can breathe freely.

3. Clogged Air Filters Reduce Your System's Life Span

- When your system has to work harder to heat and cool your home, the result is more than just increased energy bills. It can also cause your system to overheat and burn out.
- The strain placed on the blower and the entire HVAC unit can lead to premature system failure. At Air Experts, we've found that a clogged air filter is the top reason people call us with a completely failed system.
- You don't want to pay for replacement, a simple swap of your air filter will fix the problem. Neglecting your air filter is too costly of a mistake to make.

4. Dirty Air Filters Increase Your Maintenance Costs

- While a clogged air filter doesn't always lead to system failure, it does lead to costly maintenance. A blower that stops working or ductwork that needs to be cleaned regularly due to the dust circulating through your home can be avoided with routine air filter replacement.
- You'd rather spend your money elsewhere, consider making air filter replacement part of your normal schedule.

5. A Clean Air Filter Keeps Your Home Cleaner

- A clean air filter will reduce the amount of dust in your home because it won't keep circulating through your home's HVAC system. Less dust will keep your home cleaner and help you spend your time doing things you love, rather than dusting.

6. How Often Should You Change Your Air Filter?

- With all these benefits, chances are you're committing to changing the filter more frequently, but how often is it necessary? The answer depends on the demand placed on your filter and the type of filter you use, but a good rule of thumb is to change it every other month.

Make sure you're doing what's best for your home.

SPRING

Is here and the snow is melting! Unfortunately, it is starting to uncover a lot of garbage and debris in yards. It is time to put away the shovels and bust out the rakes. With the temperatures rising we are seeing rats and rodents starting to come out of their dens and hiding areas, LCOHA would like to remind our tenants to remove any garbage and piles of debris from around their units that can attract and harbor these pests. **Reminder:** it is the tenant's responsibility to keep their unit clean and free of garbage and debris at all times to insure you are staying in compliance with your lease. Other items that can harbor these pests are disabled and unregistered vehicles along with old furniture and mattresses in yards and garages. We have been working to rid our community of these rodent's, however it is also a problem that will not go away without the help of our tenants and community members. LCOHA staff will be keeping an eye out for piles of debris and garbage in yards. Keep in mind that LCO Conservation is on the lookout for illegal dump sites so be respectful to our lands so please, utilize the transfer station. **Per your lease,** tenants shall not operate or park vehicles on lawns or other areas not designated as vehicle traffic or parking areas. **This is especially important during the spring thaw, as it causes ruts in your yard.** Thank you in advance for your efforts and cooperation.

SPRING CLEANING TIPS:

With the recent health crisis going on, spring cleaning is especially important. Community members should practice routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces (for example hard surfaces such as: tables, chairs, doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, toilets, faucets, sinks) with household cleaners and EPA-registered disinfectants that are appropriate for the surface, follow label instructions. Labels contain instructions for safe and effective use of the cleaning product including precautions you should take when applying the product, such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product. Open up your unit and let some fresh air in, mix up a solution of bleach and water and wipe down all your window frames and sills and allow to dry while the weather is warm to help combat mold/germs in your home. Windows can be washed with a simple solution of vinegar and hot water. Using a squeegee works best, in between swipes, clean the blade with a lint-free rag. Cloth diapers or old linen napkins are perfect for this task. Wash them on a day with no sun to prevent streaking. Wash curtains, Clean appliances (inside, out and under) vacuum condenser coils, Defrost and clean freezer, Clean kitchen and bathroom exhaust fans, Clean lights and fans, Vacuum lampshades, Wash throw rugs, Clean washer & dryer, Clean debris from lint trap and dryer vent, Wash bedding, Vacuum and flip mattresses. Make yourself a checklist and do one or two items at a time, you'll be surprised how fast it goes!



April Birthdays

Rhonda Quagon	4/2
John Kingfisher	4/4
Jim Miller	4/4
Amanda Kingfisher	4/5
Sierra Rae Valentin	4/5
Blake Trepania	4/7
Cassidy Kingfisher	4/8
Arleen DeBrot	4/9
Jim Quaderer	4/10
Jamie Fleming	4/11
Tecumseh Jack	4/14
Tom Quagon	4/15
Alicia DeBrot	4/17
Ben Fleming	4/18
Chyla Thayer	4/18
Alijah Cross	4/18
Sandy Trepania	4/19
Danessa Hamilton	4/20
Maima Crone	4/21
Mike Marquardt	4/21
Anthony Miller	4/22
Mike DeNasha	4/22
Christopher White	4/23
Alianna Dishaw	4/23
Charity SunRhodes	4/27
Jimmie Oliver	4/28



You don't have to like spring cleaning, but you can at least love the result.



A clean home is a healthy home!