



March 13, 2020

Dear Bath Housing Residents:

Ensuring residents are served in a safe and healthy environment is our greatest concern. We know you are concerned about the spread of COVID-19 (the novel coronavirus) and how it may impact us all here at Bath Housing.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have recommended steps to help reduce the potential for the virus to enter or spread. Bath Housing is adopting many of these steps to protect staff and residents, many of whom are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness.

We need your help! Below are examples of how we can help protect each other and prevent the spread throughout the community.

What Bath Housing is doing:

Communication

- Posting signs at buildings and the Bath Housing office requesting that anyone who is sick postpones their visit.
- Posting signs related to hygiene best practices in community spaces, public restrooms, and kitchens.
- Providing information to residents about community resources available. Please call Kristen at (207) 295-3317 or e-mail kmcevoy@bathhousing.org if you have specific needs.

- Recommending contact with Bath Housing staff by telephone and e-mail instead of in-person meetings.
- As of Monday, March 16, Resident Services staff will no longer be holding office hours at properties and will instead be available by phone and e-mail.

Operations

- In addition to regular cleaning of common areas, the maintenance team will be doing regular surface disinfectant of common areas.
- As always, Bath Housing has personal protective equipment (gloves, etc.) available to staff to use as appropriate.
- ***Effective today, we ask that you place emergency work orders only.*** Please tell staff if you are sick or have been in contact with someone who is sick. You will be asked this question when you call in a work order. This is designed to reduce the risk of our staff carrying illness to other residents.
- Moving to a “Social Distancing” protocol. This means we are limiting group interactions and cancelling all programs at buildings until further notice. We encourage residents to be thoughtful about any gatherings they may be organizing in community spaces.

Staff Precautions

- Staff safety is critical so we can operate during this time and reduce the risk of spreading illness to residents. The Bath Housing team understands the importance of staying home if sick. We have plans in place so we can continue our most important functions even if staff are out.

What You Can Do

- Learn more about COVID-19 through the following resources:
 - o CDC's coronavirus disease information page for the most recent updates: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/>.
 - o Use 211 Maine for answers to general questions about case numbers, travel advisories and other general COVID-19 issues at any time by:

Dialing 211 (or 1-866-811-5695), or

Texting your ZIP code to 898-211, or

Emailing info@211maine.org

- Call your health care provider if you think you have been exposed to COVID-19 and develop a fever and symptoms, such as cough or difficulty breathing, call your healthcare provider for medical advice.
- Follow CDC recommendations (attached) related to stop the spread of germs.

Bath Housing is in close contact with the local and state health departments and are following their guidance. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (207) 443-3116.