



Our Mission is to provide decent, safe and sanitary housing for low-income families.



The Fayette & Highland County Waiting Lists Remain CLOSED



The Fayette Highland Metropolitan Housing Authority has received notice from HUD (U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development) that due to a lack of government funding and HUD guidelines regarding the length of the Waiting Lists, the Waiting Lists will remain CLOSED until further notice.

Once the Housing Authority has been informed that funding will be resumed, the Housing Authority will be able to pull applications of the families who are already on the waiting lists in order to proceed with their eligibility processing and make the decision to re-open the waiting lists for future applicants.

When the Waiting Lists have been Opened, it will be announced on the Fayette Highland Metropolitan Housing Authority Website www.fayette-co-oh.com.

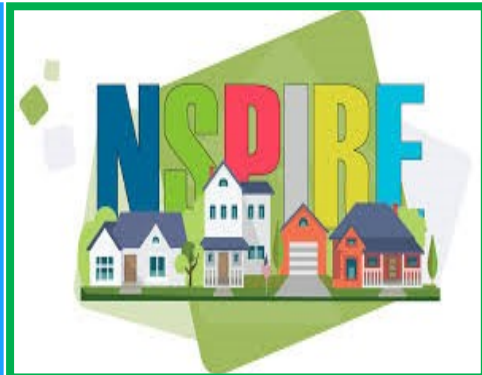
If you follow the national news, you have noticed that the government has made several changes in it's governing of the United States along with funding cuts to government agencies. This includes HUD (U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development) which locally in Fayette and Highland counties funds the rental assistance and mortgage assistance programs for the Fayette Highland Metropolitan Housing Authority. The good news is that the government is still providing funding for the current families in the program to allow the Housing Authority to assist them in paying their rent or mortgage payments. The bad news is that since September 15, 2025, the government has stopped funding to enable the Housing Authority to bring on any new clients to the program. This has caused the Housing Authority, with no other choice, but to CLOSE the WAITING LISTS for both Fayette and Highland counties.

What You Should Know About Housing Authority Inspections

NSPIRE (**N**ational **S**tandards for the **P**hysical **I**nspection of **R**eal **E**state) is the HUD inspection model designed to improve residents quality of life by prioritizing health, safety and functional defects in housing. It focuses on three main areas - the unit, inside (common areas) and outside - to ensure homes are functional, operable and free of hazards. **There are 4 Key Aspects of NSPIRE Inspections:**

- 1.) **PURPOSE:** To ensure safe, habitable homes by focusing on functional, real-time safety issues rather than just appearance.
- 2.) **SCOPE:** Covers units (where residents live), inside (common areas, building systems) and outside (building site, exterior).
- 3.) **SCORING & CONSEQUENCES:** Properties are scored on a 0-100 scale, with a minimum passing score of 60. Failing to maintain standards can lead to penalties, though specific, temporary compliance extensions for certain deficiencies have been granted.
- 4.) **PREPARATION:** Landlords should proactively inspect units, maintain building systems and correct deficiencies before inspections.

NSPIRE focuses on functionality. Inspections emphasize whether items work properly, such as ensuring heat sources are operational, electrical outlets work and guardrails are secure. Inspectable areas include the interior of the home, common areas like hallways, laundry rooms & systems and the building exterior, parking & site.



In accordance with the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program requirements, in order to continue participation in the program, your rental unit must be inspected biennially every 2 years. The Housing Authority will schedule your inspection giving you a 30-Day Notice of the date and time of your inspection by mailing you a letter, in addition to notifying your landlord. It is the tenant's responsibility to make certain entry can be gained to the unit, common area spaces and heating facilities at the appointed time. Your landlord may be present for the inspection. Please be prepared for the inspector on the date and time scheduled. If you are not able to be there, please assign a representative over the age of 18 for the inspection. If you (or a representative) are not present when the inspector arrives, you will be charged a rescheduling fee of \$15.00. If you have pets, please contain your pets to have NO ACCESS to the inspector or you may be charged a rescheduling fee of \$15.00 for failure to contain your pets.

If you find it necessary to re-schedule this appointment, please do so 24 hours, in advance of the appointed date. Please be advised that failure to allow the inspection or to reschedule the appointment within a reasonable time period may result in the abatement of Housing Authority payments and/or termination of the unit from the program. It is recommended that the unit be in good condition and clutter free for the inspection. Tenant, be aware that the landlord can charge you for any damages that have occurred beyond normal wear & tear.

OWNER AND TENANT INSPECTION CHECKLIST

This checklist is designed to help you prepare the unit for inspection. This list does not cover every program requirement. To avoid delays, please be sure that any work being done on the unit is complete and the unit is ready for move-in. If the unit is not ready please call to reschedule the appointment. Program requirements do not allow the Housing Authority to begin making payments until the unit has passed inspection. Please note that if the tenant moves in before the unit passes inspection, the tenant will be responsible for the entire rent until the unit passes and MHA approves the contract. □

- ◆ **Smoke detectors:** One per floor (including basement, if applicable), and one placed within 10 ft of bedroom areas installed with a working battery. □
- ◆ **Utilities:** Utilities must be ON, so plumbing and appliances can be tested. □
- ◆ **Heating:** The heating system provides adequate heat and is ready to be tested; if gas the pilot light must be lit. □
- ◆ **Refrigerator and Stove:** Installed with the power ON. (If tenant-supplied appliances are not in place for inspection the inspector will need to verify them after you move-in.) □
- ◆ **Windows:** There is at least one window that opens in each room used for living or sleeping. Windows made to open must be able to open and have working locks. No broken windows, minor cracks are sealed. □
- ◆ **Bathroom Ventilation:** There is either a window that opens or a working fan and vent. □
- ◆ **Kitchen:** Provides enough space to prepare and store food. Cabinets, drawers, shelves, in good condition and secure. □
- ◆ **Plumbing:** Tubs, sinks, toilets, etc. are working properly. No leaks, stoppage or dripping. □
- ◆ **Water Heater:** Pressure Relief valve and extension pipe are present. □
- ◆ **Lighting and Electrical Outlets:** Living or Sleeping Areas: Two outlets per room or one outlet and one permanent light. Kitchen: One outlet and one permanent light. Bathroom One permanent light, no outlet required. □
- ◆ **Interior walls/ceilings:** Structurally sound, weather tight and in good condition. Free of chipped or peeling paint, holes or other hazards. □
- ◆ **Flooring:** No serious defects or hazards, such as torn carpeting or loose tiles. □
- ◆ **Leaks:** No leaks, No water stains on ceilings, walls or around windows/doors. □
- ◆ **Exterior Doors:** Adequate to provide safety (such as deadbolt locks). Locks can be opened from the inside without key. □
- ◆ **Building Exterior:** Structurally sound and weather tight. Exterior lighting is adequate to provide safety. Free from hazards of lead-based paint. Address is clearly displayed. No debris, garbage, or inoperable vehicles in yard. □
- ◆ **Stairs:** No broken, rotten or missing steps. Handrails are required where there are four or more consecutive steps. □
- ◆ **Porch and Balconies:** Safety guardrails around a porch, balcony or deck area that is 2 ½ ft or more above the ground. □
- ◆ **Garbage:** Adequate storage and disposal facilities for garbage. □
- ◆ **Infestation:** No signs of roaches, mice or vermin.

Thank you for participating in the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program.

If you have any questions about this matter, please contact this office Monday–Thursday.

What better way to welcome Spring than with *Salad Skewers!*

Salad Skewers are Fun to make for a picnic or cookout, healthy & above all a great activity to get your kids involved in the kitchen. So get your ingredients prepped and your skewers ready to get their little hands to threading.



Antipasto Salad Skewers

- ◆ 20 Long Wooden Skewers
- ◆ 16 oz. Package of Cheese Tortellini
- ◆ 40 Kalamata or Green Olives with Pimentos
- ◆ 40 Grape Tomatoes
- ◆ 40 Thin Slices of Genoa Salami
- ◆ 40 Thin Slices of Prosciutto
- ◆ 20 Baby Mozzarella Balls
- ◆ 20 Bite-Size Cubes Provolone Cheese
- ◆ 20 Torn Pieces of Basil (optional)
- ◆ 20 Pieces Chopped Artichoke Hearts
- ◆ 2 Seedless Red Pepper Pieces
- ◆ 1/2 Cup Olive Oil
- ◆ 3 Tablespoons Lemon Juice
- ◆ 1/2 Cup Loosely Packed Fresh Basil
- ◆ 2 Tablespoons Red Wine Vinegar
- ◆ 1 Tablespoon Honey
- ◆ 1 Teaspoon Garlic Powder
- ◆ Salt & Pepper to taste



Cook, drain & rinse in cold water the tortellini according to package directions. Combine oil, lemon juice, basil, vinegar, honey and seasonings in a blender. In a large bowl combine tortellini & mozzarella balls with a 1/3 cup of the dressing & refrigerate for 15 minutes. Assemble skewers with the tortellini, mozzarella balls & all the other ingredients. Serve with extra dressing to drizzle.

Wedge Salad Skewers

- ◆ 1 Head of Iceberg Lettuce
- ◆ 8 Slices of Cooked Thick Bacon
- ◆ 1 Large Avocado, cut into bite-size pieces
- ◆ 2 Roma Tomatoes, cut into bite-size wedges
- ◆ 1/2 Red Onion, finely diced
- ◆ 1/4 Cup Blue Cheese Crumbles
- ◆ 1/2 Cup Blue Cheese Dressing
- ◆ Black Pepper
- ◆ 16 Wooden Skewers



Slice the head of lettuce into quarters and continue to slice lettuce into bite-size wedges that will fit on a skewer. To assemble the skewers, layer lettuce, 1/2 a slice of bacon, avocado piece and tomato wedge. Drizzle dressing on skewers and top with red onion and blue cheese crumbles, then season with black pepper.

Fruit Skewers with Dip

- ◆ 1 (8 oz.) Block Cream Cheese, softened
- ◆ 1 (7 oz.) Container Marshmallow Creme
- ◆ 3 Tablespoons Orange Juice
- ◆ Fresh Fruit of Your Choice - Green Seedless Grapes, Pineapple Chunks, Red Raspberries, Blackberries, Halved Strawberries, Blueberries, Kiwi Pieces, Honey Dew Melon Balls, Watermelon Balls & Cantaloupe Balls
- ◆ 20 Wooden Skewers

In a medium bowl, cream together the cream cheese & marshmallow crème. Add juice and beat until smooth. Transfer to a small bowl, cover with plastic wrap & refrigerate for 1 hour. Then, simply thread the fruit onto the skewers & serve with fruit dip.

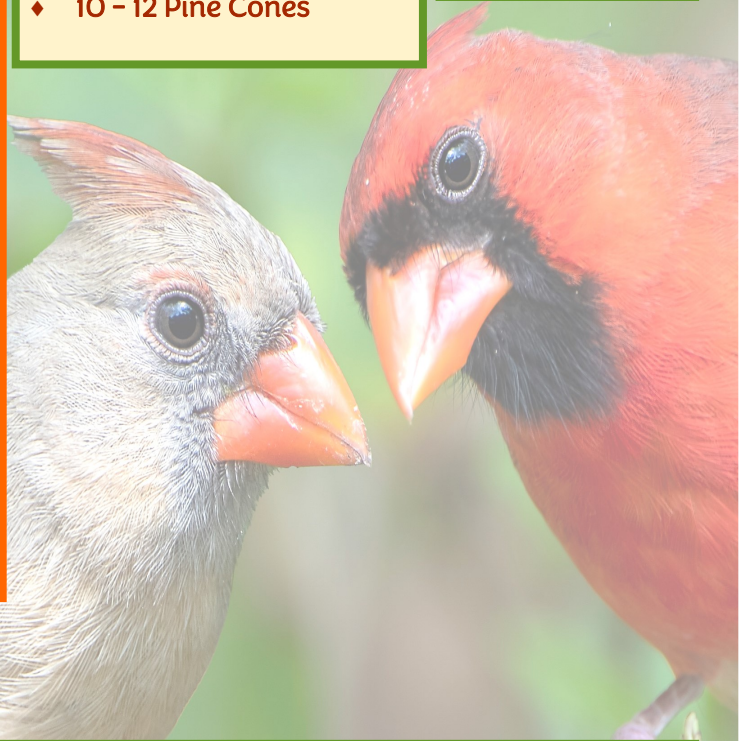


Make A Pine Cone Bird Feeder



You will need:

- ◆ 2 cups Wheat Chex Cereal
- ◆ 1 1/2 cups Creamy Peanut Butter
- ◆ 2 1/2 cups Bird Seed
- ◆ 10 - 12 Pine Cones
- ◆ Scissors
- ◆ Twine
- ◆ Pretty Spring Ribbon



Cut 30 inch lengths of twine to tie around each pine cone to hang the bird feeders. In a large bowl, crush up the cereal until fine. Add & mix the bird seed. Cover the pine cones with peanut butter. Then, holding the pine cones over the bowl with the cereal/bird seed mixture, thoroughly cover the peanut butter on each pine cone with the mixture and press firmly to adhere. Add a ribbon bow to each finished pine cone. Then, find tree branches to hang them in outside, preferably outside of a window so that you can bird watch.



Easy DIY Spring Tulip Wreath

You'll Need:

- ◆ Faux Tulip Stems
- ◆ 3 Inch Burlap Ribbon
- ◆ 14 Inch Straw Wreath Form
- ◆ Wire Cutters

Wrap the ribbon around the wreath form loosely - Not too loose that it moves around, but loose enough so that you are able to stick the stems in the seams. Next, cut off each stem from the main stem using your wire cutters. Now, start adding the tulips by placing them in the openings of the ribbon - layering them really pretty as you go and pushing each stem into the seams of the ribbon.





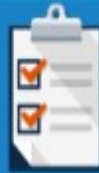
Spring CLEANING Tips

from **Cottonelle**

Viva **Scott**
Products

1

Make a checklist to stay on track with all cleaning and organization projects.



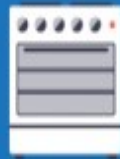
2

Get ahead of the game and stock up on all necessary supplies in advance, especially kitchen & bath necessities like hand soap, air freshener, Viva® paper towels, and Cottonelle® and Scott® bath tissue.



3

Don't take on too many projects at once. Start with one task in one room at a time, like scrubbing the kitchen stove then rearranging silverware drawers.



4

Warmer weather means outside fun. Clean dirt and grime off patio furniture and even the grill with the scrubby texture and cloth-like strength of Viva® Vantage®.



5

Nothing says spring cleaning like a good purge. Pick a room, take inventory of everything you have and make piles to keep and donate. Can't decide? When in doubt, throw it out.



6

Good-bye winter, hello spring. Put away boots, winter coats and hats and make room for sneakers, rain boots and umbrellas.



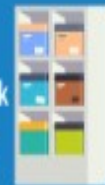
7

Need a few décor upgrades? Spring cleaning is the perfect time. Add simple chic shelving to the living room or colorful accents to the kitchen.



8

Get creative with storage to ensure everything is in its place and easily accessible. Incorporate under-the-sink organizers and door racks in the linen closet to store household items.



9

Make a little extra cash this spring and hold a garage sale, the perfect way to get rid of unwanted items during the annual clean.



10

Organizing tools can be both functional and stylish. Store extra toilet paper in a cute wicker basket or paper towels on a decorative holder.



Fayette Highland

Metropolitan Housing Authority

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Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 7:30 am - 3:00 pm

Closed for Lunch Everyday Noon - 1:00 pm

Friday the Office is Closed

Office Closed All Government Holidays

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