

Spring 2019

Spring Cleanup



Spring is here and the snow is finally gone. Now it's time for some yard work! Here are some simple ways to prepare your yard for the nice weather:

- Pickup debris – leaves, rocks, twigs and branches from your yard or balcony. This helps new grass grow.
- Remove annual plants that did not survive the winter. Pulling up dead annuals makes room for other plants and loosens the soil, allowing air, water and nutrients to circulate.
- For planting beds – remove any accumulated debris, pull out any weeds and rake back mulch to allow the sun to dry and warm the soil. The warmth will help in kick-starting the new spring growth.

Reduce, Reuse and Recycle!

Retirement

After 31 years of service with Grey County, Tim Yetman is retiring from the Housing Department. Tim will be missed, but we wish him all the best as he begins this next chapter of his life.



Positive Thoughts

Your mind is a garden. Your thoughts are the seeds...



You can grow flowers,
or you can grow weeds....

Patio Garden Planters

Don't forget Patio garden planters are a great way to make the most of your space in the summer and can provide you with some fresh produce all summer long. Recycled plant containers from garden centers are a great way to get some large free planters, just be sure to have a large enough bottom tray to catch the water so it doesn't spill to your neighbor below. It is encouraged that all planters remain inside the patio/balcony. Library's often have seed sharing opportunities or your local Community Hub Sites can direct you on where to get some seeds and some even have plants available. If you need some help getting started please contact Nadia Ellis at [519 376-5744](tel:519-376-5744) ext1208.

Retirement and Pension

For many people this transition is full of change and often has a lot of unknowns. There is often a lot of paperwork that needs to be done a year in advance and if you are changing from ODSP or OW there are many benefits that you will no longer be able to access. If this is something that is coming up for you, you can get your questions answered by contacting Service Canada [1-800-622-6232](tel:1-800-622-6232). You can also

contact your worker if you are receiving Social Assistance and ask what this transition will mean for you.

Annual inspections



Annual inspections are completed each year by Grey County Housing Staff and if applicable other contracted staff. The purpose of inspections is to monitor the condition of your unit, to make sure everything is up to code and to help with planning appropriate maintenance and repair budgets in the short and medium term. To help you prepare for your unit inspection, here are some items staff will be looking for:

- Safety issues
- General cleanliness of the unit
- Flooring wear and tear
- Balconies are clean and clutter-free

Discarding Garbage

Grey County Housing strives to provide a quality home by keeping the building and grounds clean and free of clutter. In order to do so, we ask for your cooperation to ensure you dispose of garbage and old furniture properly. Any old furniture; including beds, mattresses, sofas, etc. must be taken directly to the dump.

Residents found leaving any large garbage or furniture in the garbage area, hallways, or common rooms, or outside the building may be subject to a charge to cover the cost of removing improperly discarded furniture or household waste.



Things we love about Spring

- Tulips
- The neon green of spring tree leaves
- Sitting outside

- Wild violets
- Open windows
- The birds chirping
- The warmer weather



Online Newsletters

Did you know you can view our new online at www.grey.ca/affordable-ho



Join our newsletter to receive up-to-date information about Housing by signing up at: www.grey.ca/subscribe.

Office Hours

Our office hours are Monday – Friday from 8:30am – 4:30pm

Phone: 519-376-5744

Fax: 519-376-0445

Email: housing@grey.ca

If you have an emergency after hours such as no heat or a flood please contact 519-376-5744 x1.