

DEC
2020

WHIDBEY ISLAND INSIGHTS
NEWS & STORIES



Our President's Message

It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year!



In just a few short weeks, we'll be celebrating the beginning of a new year. I think many of us are breathing a sigh of relief to welcome in 2021. During this holiday season and throughout the year, we appreciate the service and sacrifice you and your families make. With deployments or long training missions, our Service Members miss out on many special occasions during the holiday season.



- ❖ The holidays are fast approaching and whether you are traveling or staying home, we have a few tips to help keep you safe this season. Be sure to check out our section on Holiday and Winter Safety for more information!
- ❖ Winter prepping is important this time of the year, and we have listed several resident reminders along with helpful tips to get your home ready for the season!
- ❖ It's a busy time of year, so don't forget to take a look at the Upcoming Events and Community Calendar. You can also find this information on our website and social media!

Our communities are doing special service projects this holiday season to show our gratitude for our military families and all you do day-in and day-out. Donation drop-off stations have been established at 26 HMC communities across the nation to collect presents and toys for children in need as part of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots program. We are also encouraging employees and residents to participate in Wreaths Across America to support their wreath-laying efforts at military cemeteries across the country. On behalf of everyone here at Hunt Military Communities, I want to take this time to wish you all a very safe and happy Holiday Season and a healthy and happy 2021.

Best,

John Ehle, President
Hunt Military Communities



HuntMilitaryCommunities.com



CONTACT INFORMATION

Please see below for our updated contact information:

- Office Phone Line: 360-679-4241
- Leasing Phone Line: 877-340-9055
- Maintenance Work Orders: 866-616-3267
- Email: northsoundrso@huntcompanies.com

Seasonal Reminders

• Traveling for the Holidays?

Written notification is required to the Neighborhood Management Office (NMO) prior to leaving the Premises vacant for more than fourteen (14) consecutive days. Please notify a neighbor/representative of your absence and make arrangements to have access and monitor the home. Their contact information should be provided to the NMO. Residents assume all liability for the representative's behavior. Other recommendations include: leaving a light on in the home or porch light, close all blinds, secure all doors and keep a vehicle in the driveway.



• Holiday Decorations (see flyer for more Holiday Safety Tips)

Holiday lighting is authorized for use between the hours of 1700 to 2200 hours from Thanksgiving Day until the second week of January. Overloading of circuits and the overuse of extension cords must be avoided. Lighting may not be left on when there is no one in the premises. Any lights or decorations attached to the premises must not cause any physical damage. Gutter clips or similar clip devices are required for affixing exterior lighting; nails/screws/tacks are not permitted. Roof decorations and lighting above the first floor roofline are not permitted. Canned "snow" or other similar substances must not be sprayed on windows, siding or brick facades.

• Christmas Tree Pick-Up (see flyer for more Christmas Tree Safety Tips)

TLC will be picking up REAL Christmas trees after the holidays. NO artificial trees will be picked up and all trees must be free of ornaments, flocking, tinsel, etc. NO nails or tree stands are permitted. Trees should be placed curbside for pick up ONLY on the dates provided. Any debris that falls off of the tree while placed curbside will be the resident's responsibility to clear.

Victory Park - Monday, January 4th **Crescent Harbor (East)** - Thursday, January 7th

Maylor Point - Tuesday, January 5th **Crescent Harbor (West)** - Friday, January 8th

Whidbey Apartments - Wednesday, January 6th



• New Year's Eve Fireworks

The manufacturing, sale, storage, possession, transporting and/or use of fireworks and all incendiary devices are expressly prohibited in our neighborhoods. The Island County Board of County Commissioners approved a ban on the sale and use of fireworks that can have unpredictable and hard to control travel paths.

For more information and safety tips, please visit the Hunt Safety Zone website at huntsafetyzone.com, the NFPA website at nfpa.org, the NSC website at nsc.org and www.safetykids.org.

Seasonal Safety

WINTER SAFETY

Drive Safely in the Snow - Snow, sleet, and ice can lead to hazardous road conditions. Prepare your vehicle for the upcoming winter season.

Avoid Shoveling, Snowplowing Injuries - Cold weather can increase heart rate and blood pressure. Tips:

- Do not shovel after eating or while smoking.
- Take it slow and stretch out before you begin.
- Shovel only fresh, powdery snow; it's lighter
- Push the snow rather than lifting it.
- If you do lift it, use a small shovel or only partially fill the shovel.
- Lift with your legs, not your back.
- Do not work to the point of exhaustion.
- Know the signs of a heart attack, stop immediately and call 911 if you're experiencing any of them; every minute counts.

Treat Frostbite Immediately - Use first aid to help someone who may have hypothermia or frostbite. Tips to avoid Frostbite and Hypothermia:

- Check the temperature and limit your time outdoors if it's very cold, wet or windy.
- Bundle up in several layers of loose clothing.
- Wear mittens rather than gloves.
- Cover your head and ears with a warm hat.
- Wear socks that will keep your feet warm and dry.

Prevent Carbon Monoxide Poisoning - Carbon monoxide detectors save lives. Every year, over 400 people die and 50,000 are treated for carbon monoxide poisoning. The most common symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning are often described as "flu-like" - headache, dizziness, weakness, upset stomach, vomiting, chest pain and confusion.

Avoid Injuries While Enjoying Outdoor Recreation - Whether you are skiing, snowboarding, sledding or skating, take safety precautions like learning basic skills and using the appropriate gear for the sport.



TRAVEL SAFETY

Distracted Drivers and Pedestrians

- Keep an eye out for distracted pedestrians and drivers who may not be paying attention to you, especially when backing out of parking spaces. Shopping center parking lots are busier during the holidays.
- Remind your teen driver to be extra alert during this holiday season, when conditions are more challenging even for experienced drivers.
- Make sure you are not distracted while driving. Commit to keeping your phone down. No text message or play list is worth the risk.

Child Passenger Safety

- Buckle up every ride, every time, whether it's the long trip to visit family or around the block to the mall.
- Make sure every rider in the vehicle has their own seat belt or car seat, even for short rides and when traveling with a large group.
- Check your car seat before holiday travel. Seventy-three percent of car seats are not used or installed correctly, so check it before you hit the road.
- Remember that safety in the car goes beyond your little ones. Kids who have outgrown a forward-facing harness seat are not ready for a seat belt or front seat yet. They are safest in a booster seat that enables the adult seat belt to fit properly. Even when children have graduated from booster seats, they should remain in the back seat until they reach the age of 13.

Travel Preparedness

- Have an exit strategy for your road trip. The car is packed, the kids are in the right seat, the seats are installed properly, and you're on the open road.
- Prepare for weather emergencies, if you live in a cold-weather state. Pack extra blankets, food and diapers, in case your car is stuck in snow or disabled. Keep your cell phone charged, make sure someone knows your route, and clear the exhaust of packed snow.
- Keep hot foods, large gifts and anything that can become a projectile in the trunk. You never know when you might have to stop abruptly.
- Designate a driver or use a car service to make sure you get home safely when you are headed to a party and plan to drink alcohol.

Modified Site Operations

As Hunt Military Communities (HMC) continues to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic we continually look to adjust property operations in accordance with recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), state, and local authorities. As a precautionary measure and abundance of thoughtfulness for the health and wellbeing of our staff and residents, we have made the following adjustments to our operations.

NEIGHBORHOOD MANAGEMENT OFFICE

We will be available for your needs with precautionary measures in place for your safety and ours!

- We will be available in the office, Monday – Friday, 8 AM to 5 PM by appointment ONLY or for emergency purposes. Otherwise, our offices will be closed to the public.
- If you have flu-like symptoms including fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, please do NOT come to our offices. We are still here for you and can offer virtual assistance in all matters. Stay home and get well!
- To make an appointment to come to the office, please call us (360) 679-4241.
- If your rent is paid via check, please utilize the rent drop box at the community center entrance. We highly encourage all residents to pay via RentPayment.com or automatic allotment if able.
- For up to date communications and to create a maintenance request, please register using the Hunt Resident App which can be found in the Apple or Android store.
- Move-ins, pre-inspections, and move-outs will be conducted with a Hunt representative and one other person only unless a virtual inspection is requested.
- Our offices will be limited to no more than 1-2 people in the office at a time. All others will be asked to wait outside or in his/her car to practice social distancing.
- Masks will be required to enter our offices. Please bring a mask along with you.
- The use of hand sanitizer will be required of all who enter our offices. We will have sanitizing stations on all office desks, we ask that you please use it.
- Multiple signs are posted throughout our offices reminding everyone to practice social distancing, wear a face mask, and preventative measures in stopping the spread of the virus e.g. washing hands, etc.

What to expect from our team

We are taking extra precautionary measures to keep our office areas clean and safe for everyone's safety!

- Sneeze guards have been installed at every desk as an extra layer of protection.
- Our team is required to wear masks while in office.
- The team is required to use hand sanitizer after every interaction.
- After every visit, contact areas will be wiped down before the next person will be allowed to enter the office.
- Strict cleaning measures have been implemented at the opening of the office, throughout the workday, and at the closing of our office.
- HMC employees have and will continue to receive the required training on all policies and procedures to ensure understanding and adherence to the policy and standards set forth.

MAINTENANCE SERVICES

Maintenance will continue to respond to ALL work order requests at this time. We will continue to screen prior to performing work in your home. Also, we are now requiring some additional precautions of our residents before we enter into a resident's home.

- We will be asking questions to identify any potential risk of exposure to COVID-19 to ensure the most appropriate response. Please note our policy instructs all employees and 3rd party providers to stay home if they are ill, showing signs/symptoms, or have been exposed to COVID -19.
- In order for us to perform repairs in the home, we will require residents to take the following action to ensure our employees can perform work in a safe manner. As a resident, you will have three options when a work order is performed inside their home:
 1. Do not be inside the home while work is being performed.
 2. Be located in a separate area of the home, with no engagement with our team member.
 3. Only 1 member of the family is allowed contact with our team member, and if this occurs a mask must be worn along with maintaining appropriate social distancing.

While we understand this action will be disappointing to some, your health and safety, our employees' health and safety, as well as that of our military, civilian personnel, family members, and the base community is our top priority.

What to expect from our Maintenance Team

Our technicians will continue to take extra precautionary measures to keep their vehicles and work areas clean and safe for all our safety!

- Technicians are required to sanitize their hands before entering the home at every visit.
- Technicians will utilize appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to include face coverings, shoe coverings, eye protection, and gloves.
- We ask that anyone in the home maintain a 6-foot social distance. One adult is permitted in the work area, maintaining a 6-foot distance during the repair process. If present in the work order, we would further require a mask/face covering be worn. Please have all other family members and pets located in another area of the home.
- The technician will wipe down/sanitize all possible work surfaces and touchpoints before and after the work is completed.
- Technicians are required to wipe down the interior of their vehicle and any touched surface after every home visit and at the beginning and end of their work shift.

AMENITIES

Our outdoor amenities are open and residents are encouraged to practice social distancing and COVID-19 safety precautions. Our Community Center amenities remain CLOSED at this time. Please know that our intent is to solely limit the exposure to COVID while still allowing some amenities to open for you and your families' enjoyment. We are taking great care to evaluate which amenities can be reopened or remain open with the safety of all in mind. Should there be changes, we will communicate this to you and your family.

UPCOMING IN DECEMBER

Check out what's happening this month!

Dec 10 | First Night of Hanukkah

Dec 11 | Gingerbread House Kit

Stop by your local Community Center and pick-up a FREE Gingerbread House Kit. While supplies last!

Dec 14-18 | 5 Days of Christmas FUN!

Join us on Facebook for 5 Days of Christmas FUN activities! Prizes for each day and winner chosen randomly!

Dec 18 | Last Night of Hanukkah

Dec 24 | Christmas Eve

Dec 25 | Christmas Day

Our offices will be CLOSED on Christmas Day! Enjoy the holiday!

Dec 30 | New Year's Celebration Kit

Stop by your local Community Center and pick-up a FREE New Year's Celebration Kit. While supplies last!

Dec 31 | New Year's Eve

Jan 1 | New Year's Day

Our offices will be CLOSED on New Year's Day! Enjoy the holiday!

Thank you to all that participated in our virtual energy event in October. Our special focus on conservation continues in November with the kick off of our Winter Energy Champion Contest. Do you have what it takes to be an energy champion? See the included flyer for contest details.

Whidbey Island Family Housing is partnering with Puget Sound Energy (PSE) to brighten your neighborhoods! As part of our ongoing community improvement efforts, LED lighting kits will be offered to all homes that qualify, including yours. Whidbey Island Family Housing is excited to invest in our community's future! This project will provide the following benefits:



- **Energy Efficient** – LED bulbs provide the same amount of light output as incandescent bulbs, but use up to 80% less energy. This means less electricity usage for your home.
- **Longer Lasting** – LED lighting is more resistant to breakage and has a longer life (approximately 10 times as long), meaning you don't have to replace them as often.

Request your kit from PSE using the below link. You will fill in your name, address, contact information, and bulb counts. <https://forms.gle/hNHAKnkxCcmEEh1cA>



If you would like to volunteer and/or sponsor a wreath this year, please visit wreathscrossamerica.org for more information.

Participating Locations for Washington include:

Sequim View Cemetery - Full Ceremony 1505 Dungeness Way
Sequim, WA 98382

Evergreen Washelli Cemetery - Veterans Memorial Park - Full Ceremony
11111 Aurora Ave N
Seattle, WA 98133

Poulsbo Municipal Cemetery - Full Ceremony
200002 Caldart Ave NE
Poulsbo, WA 98370

Lynden Cemetery - Full Ceremony
1975 Front Street
Lynden, WA 98264

Contact Information
Neighborhood Management and Maintenance Offices open:
Monday - Friday 8:00-5:00pm
Closed Saturday & Sunday

Office Phone: 360-679-4241
Available for Emergencies 24/7:
866-616-3267

Victory Terrace - 2205 Egret Dr.
Crescent Harbor - 1930 Magnolia Way
Maylor Point - 1093 Mt. Stewart Loop
Maintenance Shop - 2372 Robin St.

Facebook: www.facebook.com/whidbeyislandfamilyhousing
Website: whidbeyislandfamilyhousing.com



MAINTENANCE CORNER

WINTER HOME SAFETY TIPS



- ✓ **Filters** - Please ensure that your air filters are replaced regularly (every 6 months). Stop by the maintenance shop to pick up your FREE filter when you are ready to replace them.
- ✓ **Smoke Alarms** - Test all smoke alarms to make sure they are working properly. Check the batteries and replace if necessary.
- ✓ **Thermostats** - Check your thermostats to ensure they are working properly. Replace batteries if necessary. **Always keep your heat ON. Reduce temperature to 65 degrees IF traveling and leaving the home.** Contact your local neighborhood management office if you plan to be away from your home.
- ✓ **Hose bib Covers** - As the temperatures begin to drop, frozen pipes become a concern. Check your outside faucets and disconnect any hoses that may be attached. Secure your hose bib covers over the faucet for protection. If you are in need of hose bib covers, stop by the maintenance shop to pick one up.
- ✓ **Insect/Pest Control** - Residents are allowed and encouraged to treat any insect issues with insect sprays and/or repellents. If the issue persists or is recurring, please contact your maintenance shop for further assistance to resolve the issue.
- ✓ **Fireplace** - Please ensure your fireplace has been cleaned and thoroughly inspected before use. Maintain proper safety precautions when fireplace is in use. Never leave a fire unattended and always ensure fire has been put out completely.

We're Here for You!



Matt Bush
Community Director



Heather Carlon
Community Manager



James Mauck
Community Supervisor



Jan Jones
Community Manager



Lamont Webster
Maintenance Director



Louise Aldana
Maintenance Manager



Heather Eaton
Maintenance Manager



Nathan Kline
Maintenance Manager

WINTER ENERGY CHAMPION CONTEST

CASH PRIZES FOR CONSERVING ENERGY IN
YOUR HOME EVERY MONTH DURING
NOVEMBER, DECEMBER, JANUARY, AND FEBRUARY



EACH MONTH:

- ❄️ Receive a raffle entry each month you reduce usage below the month average (for your Like Type Group)
- ❄️ Receive a raffle entry by decreasing electric or gas usage by **10%** over last year's usage

**ALL RESIDENTS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD WITH THE
LOWEST TOTAL CONSUMPTION FROM NOV - FEB WILL
RECEIVE A RAFFLE ENTRY WITH THE FINAL RAFFLE IN MARCH.**

RESIDENTS OUT OF THE HOME DO NOT QUALIFY.
WINNERS MUST CONFIRM THEY WERE IN THE HOME BEFORE PRIZE IS AWARDED.

PRIZE AWARD DATES

November winners are awarded December 31st
December winners are awarded January 31st
January winners are awarded February 28th
February winners are awarded March 31st

**STAY TUNED
FOR MORE**



Winter Weather

REMINDER ABOUT WHAT TO DO DURING THESE CHILLY MONTHS



When the snow hits our area and reaches a depth of 2 inches or more, we will plow the streets within the housing area. Residents are responsible to clear their sidewalks and driveways. The streets leading to housing will be plowed by NAVFAC crews.



If you plan to traveling during the winter months, set your thermostat to 55° to keep the pipes from freezing.



Whether you will be home or away please be sure to follow these tips:

- Leave thermostat set at 55 degrees or higher
- Disconnect hoses and cover outside faucets with insulated covers
- Replace furnace filters several times a year to help efficiency

Call the Maintenance Dispatch Line if you have any questions about winterizing your home or to report leaks: 866-616-3267



HOLIDAY

LIGHTING AND YARD DECORATIONS POLICY

- ❄️ Holiday decorations and outside lighting are prohibited from being placed higher than the edge of the gutter on the first floor roofline.
- ❄️ The use of staples, nails, screws, or other mechanical fasteners to attach decorations or lighting to the homes and associated structures is prohibited.
- ❄️ Plastic clip-on hooks may be commercially obtained and used to attach decorative lighting, garlands etc. Attachment of anything to vinyl siding is prohibited.
- ❄️ Holiday lighting and decorations may not be erected before Thanksgiving and must be removed no later than January 10th.
- ❄️ Outside lighting must be Underwriters Laboratories (UL) approved and factory listed for outside use. Running electric cords through windows and doors, or across heating ducts or vent systems is prohibited, as this causes a fire safety hazard.
- ❄️ All exterior lighting must be "GFI" protected. Residents are reminded that homes have limited amp circuits and care must be taken to prevent overloading.
- ❄️ Outside decorative lights are to be turned off no later than midnight, except on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, when they are allowed to remain on overnight.
- ❄️ Outside lights are not authorized during daylight hours. Additionally, electrical decorations must be unplugged when residents are away from the home.
- ❄️ Resident accepts any and all liability for damages to premises or injuries caused by holiday or decorative lighting and other decorations.
- ❄️ Holiday lighting and decorations are subject to management's discretion.
- ❄️ Holiday decorations and outside lighting must be installed in accordance with manufacturer instructions and must be plugged into a GFCI outlet.



Christmas Tree Safety



As you deck the halls this holiday season, be fire smart. A small fire that spreads to a Christmas tree can grow large very quickly.



PICKING THE TREE

- Choose a tree with fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched.



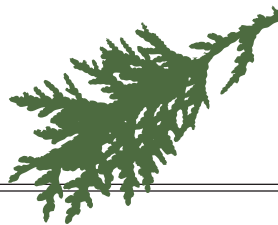
PLACING THE TREE

- Before placing the tree in the stand, cut 2" from the base of the trunk.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like fireplaces, radiators, candles, heat vents or lights.
- Make sure the tree is not blocking an exit.
- Add water to the tree stand. Be sure to add water daily.



LIGHTING THE TREE

- Use lights that have the label of a recognized testing laboratory. Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Never use lit candles to decorate the tree.
- Always turn off Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.



After Christmas

Get rid of the tree after Christmas or when it is dry. Dried-out trees are a fire danger and should not be left in the home or garage, or placed outside against the home.

Check with your local community to find a recycling program.

Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and make them last longer.

FACTS

- ! More than **one of every four** home Christmas tree fires is caused by electrical problems.
- ! Although Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious.
- ! A heat source too close to the tree causes **one in every four** of the fires.



NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

The leading information and knowledge resource on fire, electrical and related hazards

Winter Holiday Safety

Winter holidays are a time for families and friends to get together. But that also means a greater risk for fire. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe holiday season.



HOLIDAY DECORATING

- Be careful with holiday decorations. Choose decorations that are flame resistant or flame retardant.
- Keep lit candles away from decorations and other things that can burn.
- Some lights are only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.
- Replace any string of lights with worn or broken cords or loose bulb connections. Read manufacturer's instructions for number of light strands to connect.
- Use clips, not nails, to hang lights so the cords do not get damaged.
- Keep decorations away from windows and doors.



HOLIDAY ENTERTAINING

- Test your smoke alarms and tell guests about your home fire escape plan.
- Keep children and pets away from lit candles.
- Keep matches and lighters up high in a locked cabinet.
- Stay in the kitchen when cooking on the stovetop.
- Ask smokers to smoke outside. Remind smokers to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Provide large, deep ashtrays for smokers. Wet cigarette butts with water before discarding.



Before Heading Out or to Bed

Blow out lit candles when you leave the room or go to bed. **Turn off** all light strings and decorations before leaving home or going to bed.

FACTS

- ! More than **one-third** of home decoration fires are started by candles.
- ! More than **two of every five** decoration fires happen because decorations are placed too close to a heat source.



**NATIONAL FIRE
PROTECTION ASSOCIATION**

The leading information and knowledge resource
on fire, electrical and related hazards



COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD

CREATING BETTER COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

- HUNT MILITARY COMMUNITIES -



GET INVOLVED & BE AN ACTIVE
VOICE FOR YOUR COMMUNITY



HUNT IS EAGER TO CREATE A COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD
**TO BETTER SERVE OUR RESIDENTS
& MEET THEIR NEEDS.**

We are **LOOKING FOR MOTIVATED RESIDENTS**
that would like to get involved and be an active
voice for the community.

If you interested in being a voice for the community contact the Management Office at:

360.679.4241 • NorthSoundRSO@huntcompanies.com