

# Residents' Matters

May-June 2020

Wichita Falls Housing Authority

## WFHA APPLICATION DROP BOX

The WFHA has been closed to the public for awhile now, however this is for the safety of the staff and residents.

There is a new drop box placed by the first doors from the outside. There are also Pre-Applications and Big Applications for new applicants. The Big Applications are for the applicants who are on the waiting list that we scheduled to have an Intake Interview over the phone.



### LIMITED REOPENING OF LOCAL BUSINESSES

Safety is important to us all. We are praying that you are staying safe and going along with the city's shelter-in-place order. I know that it's going to be ending soon with some businesses opening up May 1. Although there are a lot that aren't, including the WFHA.



Find updated information about what is and isn't open on the city's website at [wichitafallstx.gov](http://wichitafallstx.gov) or the State of Texas website at [texas.gov/covid19](http://texas.gov/covid19).

### Protect Yourself and Others



The Centers for Disease Control recommends using a face mask at all times when you are out in public. If you don't have a face mask, you can make one out of a bandana. It's not hard, just fold and tie around your head. You can also cut up an old T-shirt to make a mask.

This Coronavirus pandemic has affected the entire United States, and it's not over yet, so please keep safe and follow the rules that the CDC and city officials have put in place.

The emergency rooms are back open to the public. If you feel sick and don't have a doctor, please get checked out. If you think you have COVID-19, call ahead so hospital staff can prepare for your arrival.

***Better to be safe than sorry!***

### CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TOO!

Stay up to date with news, events, and more from your Wichita Falls Housing Authority.



## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PETS AND COVID-19

### IF YOU HAVE PETS

- CDC is aware of a small number of pets worldwide, including cats and dogs, reported to be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, mostly after close contact with people with COVID-19. Only a few of the pets reported to be positive showed signs of illness.
- Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people is considered to be low.
- It appears that the virus that causes COVID-19 can spread from people to animals in some situations.
- Treat pets as you would other human family members – do not let pets interact with people or animals outside the household. If a person inside the household becomes sick, isolate that person from everyone else, including pets.



### WHAT TO DO IF YOU OWN PETS



- Do not let pets interact with people or other animals outside the household.
- Keep cats indoors when possible to prevent them from interacting with other animals or people.
- Walk dogs on a leash, maintaining at least 6 feet from other people and animals.
- Avoid dog parks or public places where a large number of people and dogs gather.



### PROTECT PETS IF YOU ARE SICK

If you are sick with COVID-19 (either suspected or confirmed by a test), you should restrict contact with your pets and other animals, just like you would with people.



If you are sick with COVID-19 and your pet becomes sick, do not take your pet to the veterinary clinic yourself. Call your veterinarian and let them know you have been sick with COVID-19. Some veterinarians may offer telemedicine consultations or other plans for seeing sick pets.

Source: cdc.gov

## DISINFECTANT TIP

I know from experience that it has been hard to find Lysol spray, but I finally got some last week. You can also use isopropyl alcohol to disinfect your hands, door knobs, appliances and bathroom fixtures. Pour some in a spray bottle and it works wonderfully.



## WFHA.com

- Programs & Services
- Event Calendar
- Policies & Guidelines
- Maintenance Requests
- Housing Information



## WE ARE HERE TO HELP YOU!

Call Paris or Alison, coordinators of the ROSS and FSS Self Sufficiency programs.

To set up a time to talk, please call Paris at 940-687-2450 or Alison at 940-687-9906.

# Cleaning And Disinfecting Your Facility

## Everyday Steps, Steps When Someone is Sick, and Considerations for Employers

### How to clean and disinfect

**Wear disposable gloves** to clean and disinfect.

#### Clean

- **Clean surfaces using soap and water.** Practice routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces.



#### High touch surfaces include:

Tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, sinks, etc.



#### Disinfect

- Clean the area or item with soap and water or another detergent if it is dirty. Then, use a household disinfectant.
- **Recommend use of EPA-registered household disinfectant.** **Follow the instructions on the label** to ensure safe and effective use of the product.

Many products recommend:

- Keeping surface wet for a period of time (see product label)
- Precautions such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation during use of the product.

- **Diluted household bleach solutions may also be used** if appropriate for the surface. Check to ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Unexpired household bleach will be effective against coronaviruses when properly diluted.

**Follow manufacturer's instructions** for application and proper ventilation. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.

**Leave solution** on the surface for **at least 1 minute**

**To make a bleach solution,** mix:

- 5 tablespoons (1/3rd cup) bleach per gallon of water

OR

- 4 teaspoons bleach per quart of water

- **Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol.**

### Soft surfaces

For soft surfaces such as **carpeted floor, rugs, and drapes**

- **Clean the surface using soap and water** or with cleaners appropriate for use on these surfaces.



### NO LATE FEES APRIL-MAY

Your rent has to be paid but we aren't evicting anyone now. There will be no late fees from April to May.

If you have lost your job, contact the office and let us know. We will work with you. I know a lot of us have received our stimulus checks, so please use your check to help pay your rent.

### NEED MAINTENANCE?

If you have any maintenance issues please contact the maintenance service in your area.

**Ben Donnell Area:**  
**940-733-8616**

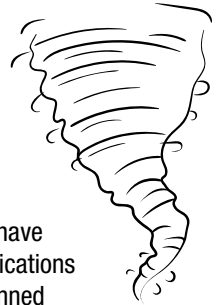
**Mills & Rosewood Area:**  
**940-767-6533**

### TIME TO BE WEATHER AWARE

This is the beginning of severe weather season. Please be weather aware and stay safe. The National Weather Service has predicted that Tornado Alley will be hit hard this month and we are in its path.

Make sure that if a tornado does happen here in Wichita Falls that you have all of your important documents in a folder or Ziplock bag, all your medications and extra clothing for everyone in your home. You also need enough canned foods and bottled water for everyone to have. Don't forget batteries and flash lights too!

We all know there aren't any storm shelters placed in the WFHA so if you get stuck at home please go to a small interior room of your apartment. Put as many walls between you and the outside as possible. Put helmets on your head if you have one, or use pillows and blankets to cover your head. And always remember to stay away from windows!



### To the parents that have children at home since spring break, *GOD BLESS YOU ALL.*

This has been a hard time for us all and one day this will be over and behind us. If COVID-19 does come back in the fall/winter as the CDC has predicted, hopefully they will have a better way to handle it for those who get sick so they do not end up in the hospital for months, or worse, die from this.



If you are having trouble dealing with this please reach out and call 211 for a hotline number to speak with a professional.



### MOBILE FOOD PANTRY COMING TO YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD!

#### The mobile food pantry is still operating!

The Wichita Falls Area Food Bank and United Regional will park a mobile food pantry on Housing Authority properties every month. This is a FREE service open to the community and no RSVP is required.

The mobile food pantry will be in the Mills area the fourth Tuesday of every month from 2:30-4 pm on the corner of 4th St. and Whitney St. **Next Available: May 25 and June 23**

The mobile pantry will be in the Ben Donnell area at the Paul Irwin Center (115 East Wichita St. back parking lot) every fourth Wednesday of the month from 1-3 pm. **Next Available: May 27 and June 24**

On the third Friday of every month, the mobile food pantry will be in the Rosewood area at Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church (809 Harding St.) from 2:30-4 pm. **Next Available: May 15 and June 19**



### INTERNET AVAILABLE FOR HOMEWORK

If your child needs to use the internet for homework please feel free to use the wifi from the WFHA Computer Lab, and Mills and Rosewood residents may use the wifi on Mills St.

