



Wednesday, Nov. 20, 2024

Are you prepared for wintry weather next time it hits the Austin area?

Winter is just around the corner.

That means it's time to **make sure you're prepared for cold weather, including snow and ice storms.** In Texas, they're rare – **but we've seen both in recent years.**

Over the next several OneVoice editions, we'll be sharing ways you can ensure you're prepared for Old Man Winter.

Stay warm, friends!

FREEZE WARNING!

Extreme Cold Weather

With the extreme cold weather moving across the country, we'd like to provide some cold weather tips and help ensure your pipes don't freeze in these frigid temperatures.



#1 Let ALL your faucets drip water & OPEN cabinet doors

- Faucets on outside walls are most vulnerable, but in this extreme cold, drip all faucets (both hot & cold side), including your tub. Hot water pipes often freeze first!
- **Open cabinet doors to expose the underneath of sinks and the pipes to the warmer apartment air**



#2 Keep your heat on and at least 65°

- Notify the office if you will be out of town so we may check on your heat and **LEAVE** your heat on while you are gone.
- If your heat fails, notify emergency maintenance immediately and take steps to keep as much heat as possible in your apartment home (close drapes etc.)
- **NEVER** use grills or open flames in your home, and follow warning guidelines for any portable heaters.



#3 Limit opening & closing of exterior doors

- Heat escapes quickly through an open door, so limit going in and out if possible and time walking pets to reduce door opening and closing.
- Do not open the door and allow your pet to run out while you watch from the door. All pets must be on leashes.



#4 Ceiling fans should be set to rotate clockwise

- If your apartment home has ceiling fans, you should have them run clockwise to pull cold air up and push the warm air down.
- The direction on your ceiling fan is controlled by a small switch on the base of the fan itself.



#5 BE CAREFUL when going outdoors

- Management will do all that it can to make the property safe. However, given the extraordinary conditions that will likely be encountered, please be keenly aware of the hazards that you may face. **This might include icy and snowy conditions of the walkways, parking lots and steps.** Wear appropriate footwear and clothing and the best safeguard against the hazards being faced, at any time, is your constant attention and vigilance.



Resident safety update: Bingo; Coffee, Community & Cops; and more

HACA Safety Coordinator Amanda Curry visited Georgian Manor on Nov. 14 to introduce herself to the Resident Council.

The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss safety initiatives and build stronger connections with the community.

Pathways at Lakeside held a Coffee, Community & Cops safety and security social with the Austin Police Department on Monday.



Residents were able to stop by for coffee and conversation. They met local officers, and learned more about safety and security efforts in the area.

Officer Luis Gonzalez, who has worked the Downtown Austin beat for more than 15 years, introduced himself and answered questions regarding delayed APD response times, as well as what to say when you dial 911.

Bouldin Oaks residents had a fantastic time alongside members of APD during a recent bingo extravaganza.

Officer Mike Crossen, an APD district representative, called out the bingo numbers, and took time to answer questions about his role in the community.

Want to know more about your APD district representative? [Head to the city's website.](#)

–Amanda Curry, HACA Safety Coordinator



Safety Coordinator Amanda Curry meets with Georgian Manor residents. She recently joined the HACA team.

H-E-B's Feast of Sharing scheduled for next Tuesday

The holiday season is a time for community, warmth, and giving back – and we're thrilled to invite you to the 34th Annual H-E-B Feast of Sharing.

This beloved event, organized by H-E-B with support from Coats for Kids, brings neighbors together for a delicious, free, Texas-style holiday meal.

Join us on Tuesday, Nov. 26 at the Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Road, from 4-8p for an evening filled with food, music, family-friendly activities, and services such as health and wellness screenings.

Coats will be distributed for sizes newborn to 3T by Coats for Kids



Seize your opportunity: Register for new FSS program

Quick reminder for HACA PBRA families: the FSS program is now open to residents at a number of HACA properties.

Thanks to a U.S. HUD grant earlier this year, residents can sign up for FSS at these properties:

- Pathways at Booker T. Washington
- Pathways at Bouldin Oaks
- Pathways at Chalmers East and West
- Pathways at Coronado Hills
- Pathways at Georgian Manor
- Pathways at Goodrich
- Pathways at Manchaca Village
- Pathways at Manchaca II
- Pathways at Northgate
- Pathways at Santa Rita Courts
- Pathways at Shadowbend
- Pathways at Thurmond Heights



To register, or for more information, contact the HACA Resident and Client Support Center at 512-588-8298 or email fss_pathways@hacanet.org.

Bringing healthy choices

and support closer to home

HACA is excited to share these **valuable resources** to enrich the **health and well-being** of our residents. Embrace a variety of support services designed with you in mind:

Fresh and Affordable Produce: Explore local farmers markets where **Lone Star SNAP and WIC benefits** are accepted. Make your grocery budget go further with the **Double Up Food Bucks program**, which doubles the amount of fresh produce you can purchase. Visit **Sustainable Food Center website** [HERE](#) for more information.

Baby Formula Assistance: If you have infants or young children, assistance with **baby formula** is available to ensure your little ones receive the nutrition they need. Check out the flyer [HERE](#) for more details.

Food Pantry Access: No one should have to worry about their next meal. Access the **food pantry** available through the **Austin Public Health Neighborhood Services Unit** [HERE](#) and fill your pantry with nutritious food options.

Self-Sufficiency and Case Management: Take control of your future with Self-Sufficiency and Case Management services. From **job search assistance** to **budget counseling**, gain the tools and guidance to thrive. Find more information on becoming self sufficient click [HERE](#).

Holistic Support: Find information and access to **Neighborhood Centers** that provide a suite of services to cover various needs, from basic necessities to personal development [HERE](#).

Each of these services is a step towards a healthier, more sustainable lifestyle.

For more information on how to access these resources, please refer to the flyers provided or get in touch with the **Resident and Client Support Center**.

Let's continue to build a supportive and nourishing community together.

Got a story? Share it with OneVoice!

If you or someone you know has a story of triumph, community, or growth at HACA, we'd love to feature it. Your story could inspire our community in the OneVoice newsletter. Contact our communications team to share. Let's celebrate our stories together!

Contact us



IMPORTANT HACA Phone Numbers

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| HACA Administration | (512) 477-4488 |
| Maintenance Work Orders | (512) 477-8518 |
| Section 8/Housing Choice Voucher | (512) 477-1314 |
| Fire/Police | call 911 |
| Non-Emergency Police | call 311 |
| Poison Center | (800) 222-1222 |
| Quit Smoking | (877) 937-7848 |

HACA RESIDENT & CLIENT SUPPORT CENTER:

(512)588-8298

CENTRO DE APOYO AL CLIENTE Y PARA RESIDENTES DE HACA:

(512)588-8298

Housing Authority of the City of Austin | 1124 IH 35 South | Austin, TX 78704 US

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