

Welcome to the Middleboro Housing newsletter, created to connect all MHA developments.

Our communities: Archer Court- Nemasket- Riverview

FROM THE OFFICE

- Annual Cookout!
- Holiday Closures

COMMUNITY REMINDERS

- Office Numbers
- Walkways
- Mosquito Prevention
- Gardening Reminder

MAINTENANCE CORNER

- Clean-up
- Report Problems Early

POLICY REMINDERS

- Rent Payments
- Reporting Changes

HEALTH AND SAFETY

- Smoking is still an issue

SCAM ALERT

SAFETY ALERT

JUST FOR FUN

YOUR HEALTH

- Pollen
- Mosquitos

DEADLIEST ANIMAL

- Countdown, you'll never guess the deadliest!

TENANTS CIRCLE

- Animal Etiquette
- Dogs
- Cats

HAPPENINGS

* From the office *



MHA's annual summer cookout!
Wednesday, August 26
Nemasket Courtyard & Community Building



Petting Zoo 11 am-12 pm



Lunch at 12 pm

Come enjoy good food, visit with friendly animals, and spend time with neighbors from **all three MHA communities.**

*Details to follow.

We hope to see you there!

*office
closed*

Independence Day Observed
Friday, July 3, 2026

Labor Day
Monday, September 7, 2026

COMMUNITY REMINDERS

As we head into the summer season, please take a moment to review these important reminders to help keep our community safe, attractive, and enjoyable for everyone.

Office Phone Number & Extensions

If you need assistance, please contact the Housing Authority office. Be sure to use the appropriate extension when calling so we can serve you more efficiently. If you're not sure, dial extension 5 for information.



Keep Walkways Clear ✓

Personal belongings, furniture, decorations, bicycles, toys, and other items may not be stored on sidewalks, walkways, stairways, or common areas. These areas must remain clear at all times for safety and emergency access.



Standing Water & Mosquito Prevention

Bird baths are not permitted on Housing Authority property because standing water can attract mosquitoes. Please also check around your apartment and patio area for any containers, buckets, plant saucers, or other items that may collect rainwater. Eliminating standing water helps reduce mosquito populations and protects the health of our community.

Gardening Reminder

Residents are welcome to grow vegetables and plants in containers and pots. However, vegetables may not be planted directly in the ground. If you would like to garden, please use planters, raised containers, or flowerpots.



Thank you for your cooperation and for helping keep our community clean, safe, and beautiful for all residents.

Maintenance Corner



A Cleaner Community Starts with All of Us!

Our maintenance staff works hard to keep the grounds looking their best, but they can't be everywhere at once. If you see litter on the ground during your daily walk, please consider picking it up rather than leaving it for someone else. Small acts of kindness help keep our community clean, attractive, and welcoming for everyone.

Need gloves? The Housing Authority can provide rubber gloves for residents who would like to help with occasional litter pickup. Contact the office, and we'll be happy to provide a pair.

Thank you for taking pride in our community!

Report Maintenance Issues Early



Don't Ignore That Drip!

A leaky faucet may not seem serious, but it can waste more than 3,000 gallons of water each year and increase utility costs.

If you notice a dripping faucet, running toilet, or plumbing leak in your apartment, please report it to the office as soon as possible. Addressing small problems early helps prevent larger repairs and conserves water.

A small leak, loose handrail, or dripping faucet can become a larger problem if left unreported. Please contact the office and leave a message on the maintenance voice mail (extension 6) as soon as you notice an issue.

Rent Payments

To help ensure your payment is processed properly, please place rent payments in a separate envelope. Do not include rent payments with maintenance requests, recertification paperwork, or other documents submitted to the office, as they may be overlooked.

Please clearly label the envelope "**RENT**" and include your name and apartment number.

Questions regarding rent payments, balances, or receipts should be directed to **Sherri, Bookkeeper**, at Ext. 3 or Sherri@middleboroha.org.

Step 1.



Step 2.



Step 3.



Step 4.



Step 5.



Reporting Income and Household Changes

If your household income changes or your household composition changes, you must notify the Housing Authority as soon as possible. Please do not wait until your annual recertification to report these changes.

To request a rent adjustment, contact **Alyson (Ext. 1)** at Alyson@middleboroha.org and request an Interim Recertification form. Requests may also be made through **Erin at the front desk (Ext. 5)** or by email at Erin@middleboroha.org.

Please note that supporting documentation must be provided before any change can be processed.

Reporting changes promptly helps ensure your rent is calculated correctly and may prevent future rent adjustments, repayment obligations, or other issues with your tenancy.

"Being a good neighbor means remembering that what affects one resident can affect many."

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Respect is not just about following rules—it's about caring for the comfort, health, and well-being of your neighbors.

SMOKING CONTINUES TO BE A PROBLEM

We have received an increase in smoking-related complaints recently and would like to remind all residents that **smoking is not permitted anywhere on Housing Authority property.**

During the summer months, windows are often open, and smoke can easily travel into neighboring apartments and common areas. Even when smoking outdoors, smoke may drift into nearby homes and affect other residents.

Many members of our community live with respiratory conditions such as **asthma, COPD, and other breathing-related illnesses.** Exposure to secondhand smoke can worsen these conditions and create serious health concerns.

If you choose to smoke, please do so well away from Housing Authority property and far enough from buildings, entrances, windows, and walkways to ensure that smoke does not affect other residents.

Thank you for your cooperation and consideration of your neighbors.



Low-Income Housing and Rent Scams

Scammers are preying on the housing shortage by creating fake low-income rental listings with unrealistically low rents, no credit checks, and “special discounts.”

Once a renter shows interest, they are asked to make upfront payments—often via cryptocurrency, wire transfers, or cash apps—before any property viewing. These payments are hard to trace and recover. Common tactics include:

- ✓ **No property verification:** Scammers claim they are out of the country or too busy to meet.
- ✓ **Duplicate listings:** The same property is listed by multiple scammers posing as different landlords.
- ✓ **Overpayment scams:** A fake “overpayment” request to return a difference, which turns out to be a trap.

“Scammers pressure you to act quickly. Trusted organizations allow time to verify.”

These scams are evolving and becoming more organized, so vigilance and verification are critical.



Safety Alert: Beware of Unwanted Solicitors

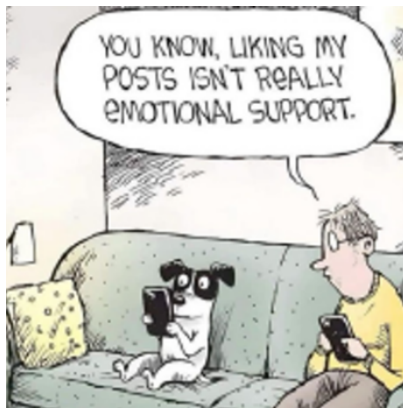


Residents have reported individuals walking around housing developments claiming to represent companies such as Verizon, Comcast, or other service providers. While some may be legitimate, others may not be who they claim to be and could be attempting to gain access to buildings or gather information about residents.

Remember:

- *There is no solicitation allowed on MHA property.*
- *Solicitors operating legally in town must be registered with the Police Department.*
- *Do not feel pressured to speak with anyone or provide personal information.*
- *Do not allow strangers into secured buildings.*
- *If someone approaches you and you are unsure of who they are, contact the Police Department to verify their identity.*

If you see suspicious activity or individuals going door-to-door on MHA property, please notify the Police Department immediately. When in doubt, check it out—call the Police Department and ask.



What's the most expensive fish called?

A goldfish.



What kind of bee is good for you?

Vitamin B.

Where do bees sit?

On their bee-hinds.

What do you call a bee who is having a bad hair day?

A frisbee.

WHAT IS A BEE'S FAVORITE LINE OF SHAKESPEARE?

To bee or not to bee.

What do you call a bee that lives in America?

A USB.

WHAT KIND OF BEE CAN'T MAKE UP ITS MIND?

A maybe.



Pollen counts don't tell the whole story

The biggest plot twist of the season: weather plays a much bigger role in your sneeze attacks than you probably realized.

Spoiler alert:

Thunderstorms and high humidity can shatter pollen grains into microscopic particles that dive-bomb your airways, causing “thunderstorm asthma.” And that first windy day after rain? Prepare for your allergies to achieve lift off.

Gross! Why are some people tastier to mosquitoes than others?

Researchers have identified several reasons why mosquitoes are more attracted to some people than others. The scent you give off through carbon dioxide and through your skin can make you more prone to mosquito bites.

If you've ever felt like you're a mosquito magnet, you're not alone. It's safe to say that no one wants to be their next meal.

How it may happen...

Mosquitoes are attracted to the CO₂ we exhale. They can fly up a CO₂ “plume” exhaled by a person and find a host. However, whether they land or not may depend on other factors.

Some studies have pointed to our unique heat signatures as a reason mosquitoes may choose to land and feed on some people rather than others. Mosquitoes may be more attracted to stronger heat signatures.

Other studies have found that mosquitoes may be attracted to chemical odors emitted by human skin. People who are more attractive to mosquitoes appear to produce more carboxylic acids. Carboxylic acids are naturally occurring compounds. They are found in human sweat and generated by skin microbes.

DEET has long been considered the gold standard repellent for protection against mosquito bites. Any protection against mosquitoes is better than none at all.

Be aware that early mornings and evenings are times when many mosquitoes bite. Check the area around you for objects that hold standing water (e.g., bird baths), as they can be breeding grounds for mosquitoes.

⇒ CHECK THIS OUT!

[What are the 12 deadliest animals on the planet?](#)

1. Hippos

Hippos can be as adorable as they are dangerous. They love water and spend up to two-thirds of their day submerged in rivers and swamps in central and southern sub-Saharan Africa. But behind that gentle, easy-going image lies one of the most aggressive species—even more so than lions and rhinos—killing up to 500 people a year.



With long tusks, strong jaws, and a weight that can reach 5,000 lb., they do not hesitate to confront any species when it comes to guarding their territory. Although they may seem somewhat lazy, they are fast, strong, and territorial. So be respectful and do not disturb their habitat!

2. Snakes

There are many dangerous snakes in the world, but the one you should be most cautious about is the Taipan. The inland Taipan, a species endemic to Australia and New Guinea, has the most lethal toxins, and its bite can kill a person in just 45 minutes. Fortunately, there is an antidote to counteract its venom! This species and others, as dangerous as the Black Mamba and the King Cobra, are responsible for the death of no less than 80,000 to 130,000 people per year globally.



3. Sharks.

There are more than 350 species of sharks, but only three account for most attacks on humans: the great white shark, the tiger shark, and the bull shark. Although sharks are dangerous, they are not the most lethal animal for humans. In the last century, there has been an average of only 6 fatal attacks per year, with Australia having the highest number of incidents.



As a matter of fact, despite their reputation as vicious predators in movies, they are often the victims. Sharks are heavily hunted for their skin, fins, meat, and even their organs.

4. Scorpions

This predatory arachnid arthropod is another of the most dangerous animals for humans: it kills approximately 5,000 people per year worldwide. Scorpions can live in a variety of habitats, from deserts to urban areas, and it's common to find them under rocks, in crevices, or in construction debris.

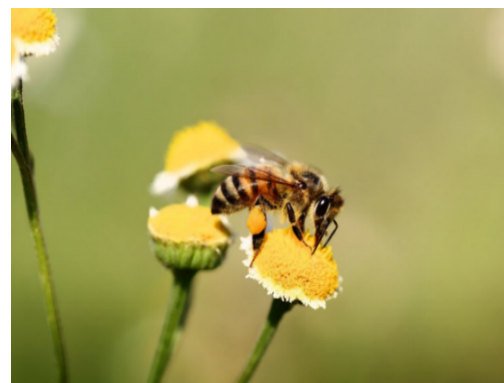


However, among the more than 1,000 venomous scorpion species, only about 25 are deadly to humans. The most venomous scorpion is the thick-tailed scorpion, responsible for 90% of scorpion-related deaths in Africa.

5. Bees

In general, bees aren't violent, but they should be treated with the utmost respect and care since they tend to act in self-defense. When they sting, they can cause anything from a minor injury to acute poisoning if the attack occurs on a person allergic to their venom.

Apis mellifera scutellata (Africanized honey bee) is among the most fearsome because it acts in swarms: although it attacks only if provoked, its defense



mechanism is so aggressive that it does not stop until it catches and sometimes kills its prey. In the United States alone, between 50 and 100 people die each year as victims of bee attacks

6. Lions

Despite being carnivores and eating any animal they come across to satisfy their hunger, they kill far fewer people in the world than one might expect. In Tanzania, the birthplace of the African lion, about 22 humans die each year, attacked by these animals, and it is estimated that there are no more than 100 victims worldwide. Not that lions are not to be feared: they attack in groups, are capable of running at a speed of 46.0 mph, and can digest 66 lb. of meat in a single meal with their sharp teeth and particular claws. So, beware!



7. Jellyfish

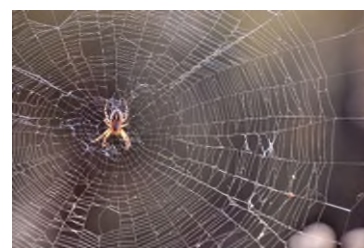
Although it's not in their nature to attack their prey, jellyfish can be dangerous to humans. If you accidentally touch one while swimming, you will be stung, and its tentacles will immediately release venom, in many cases, even if the animal is dead.

Some species, such as the box jellyfish —found in Australia, the Philippines, and other tropical areas—are the most lethal. They send out toxic stingers capable of stopping a person's heart in less than five minutes. Jellyfish stings affect hundreds of thousands of humans globally, and numbers indicate that up to 100 of those are fatal. Believe it or not, the smallest are the most poisonous!



8. Spiders

Like most animals, spiders will attack only if they feel in danger. If they bite, many pose no threat to humans other than mild swelling or a rash. Others, however, carry deadly venom, such as the Brown Widow, the Red Widow, the Redback, and the Funnel-web spiders. Fortunately, there are effective antidotes for almost all spider bites. Yet, at least 50 people die worldwide each year, 7 of them in the United States.



9. Crocodiles

These ancient animals are the largest reptiles in the world —they can be up to 20 feet long and weigh over 2,200 lbs. Their powerful jaws and high-action speed make them terrifying to their prey, including humans. The most dangerous are the saltwater species, abundant in swampy areas of Southeast Asia, northern Australia, and Africa. Saltwater crocodiles are responsible for at least 1,000 deaths annually, the highest number of victims for a large animal.



10. Ants

Did you know that there is a species of ant that releases a poison even more powerful than arsenic or cyanide? The bulldog ant, considered the most dangerous ant in the world, is solitary and aggressive. It lives in parts of Australia, and if it feels threatened, it can cling to its prey with its jaws and sting simultaneously, **killing an adult in just 15 minutes**. Another ant to watch out for is the Siafu ant, also known as the army ant. Known for having larger mandibles than most insects of its size, it is found in West Africa and the Congo. This species of ant **attacks in groups** and can devour an animal a thousand times its size.



11. Dogs

Although it may sound strange, man's best friend is the third-deadliest animal to humans. While deaths from dog attacks are uncommon, a bite from these animals can transmit a lethal disease.



According to the World Health Organization (WHO), 59,000 people die each year worldwide from rabies —95% of them in Asia and Africa— a virus transmitted by the saliva of unvaccinated dogs

12. Mosquitoes

When you think of the most lethal animal to humans, what comes to mind? Perhaps a shark or any of the venomous creatures listed in this article, such as snakes and scorpions. Well, you'd be wrong. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), **the animal that most threatens human life is none other than the mosquito.**

Mosquitoes, these slender, long-legged little insects whose buzzing is one of the most annoying sounds in the world, are the deadliest animals on the planet. Why? Because mosquitoes are vectors of many dangerous diseases, such as malaria and dengue fever. According to the WHO, mosquito-borne diseases cause some 700,000 deaths a year.



TENANTS
CIRCLE

From Residents, For Residents

“Good neighbors make a community great by showing respect for the people and places around them.”

Dog Owners: Please help keep our community clean and enjoyable for everyone by not allowing dogs to urinate on building walls, entryways, sidewalks, flower beds, or landscaping around the buildings.

Dog urine can damage plants, create unpleasant odors, attract insects, and affect residents living near entrances and ground-floor windows. Please walk your dog in areas away from the buildings.

As always, remember to pick up after your pet and dispose of waste properly. Thank you!



Cat Owners: As a reminder, the pet policy requires cats to be kept indoors. Allowing cats to roam freely outdoors can pose safety risks to the pet, affect local wildlife, and disturb other residents.

Thank you for helping keep our community clean, safe, and enjoyable for everyone!

HAPPENINGS

MONDAY



Coffee Hour – 10 am at Nemasket (weekly)
Patties Patch – check for dates, times!
Labor Day – September 7th (**Office Closed**)



TUESDAY

Bible Study – 2 pm at Riverview (weekly)

WEDNESDAY



Coffee Hour – 10 am at Riverview (weekly)
Bingo – 1 pm at Riverview (check for dates)
TOPS Meeting – 3 pm at Riverview (Weekly)



Board of Commissioners Meeting – typically on the third Wednesday of each month.
Check the town website for the meeting date/time for confirmation
Annual Cookout! - August 26th, 11 am Petting Zoo, 12:00 pm- Food and Games!

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

July 3rd - Independence Day Observed (Office Closed)



THE END

