

Housing Programs & Services

NEWSLETTER

Eviction Prevention

Later this year, the Arizona Department of Housing plans to introduce a pilot program focusing on eviction prevention. The pilot service area will be limited in that it is set to target specific areas of the state where the courts are processing the highest number of evictions. Apache Junction is one of these areas.



Financial assistance through the pilot will be limited to low-income renters who require one-time assistance that can reasonably be expected to meet their rent responsibilities with no assistance moving forward. In other words, the Department is not proposing an ongoing rental assistance program, or to assist unemployed renters, but to provide funding to households where a small amount of one-time assistance will prevent an eviction. The program would also include short-term

tracking of the assisted renter to ensure that assistance corrected the problem and did not just delay an inevitable eviction.

It should be noted that not all eviction assistance will entail providing financial assistance to avert an eviction. Housing counselors may also contact landlords to help avoid evictions through a negotiation process, such as mutual rescission of a lease so that the renter has time to move to a more affordable unit. Some renters may only require housing counseling services to identify other options or referrals to free legal assistance if a counselor identifies a possible violation of fair housing or the Arizona Landlord Tenant Act.

Once the program launches, information on how to access assistance in the target areas will be made available in an announcement through the Department's website at <https://housing.az.gov>.

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Notable News

Apache Junction seeks to have sustainable neighborhoods. Sustainability is improving the environment, human well-being, and social justice for present and future generations. For quick and easy ways to promote sustainable actions in your neighborhood visit www.ajcity.net/ssc.

Calendar

- February 3—Super Bowl Sunday
- February 8—Project Connect Event
- February 14—Valentine's Day
- February 18—President's Day—city offices closed
- March 17—St. Patrick's Day
- April is Fair Housing Month

Programs

Housing Rehab Assistance

The City of Apache Junction has funding available for homeowners within the City of Apache Junction city limits. Funding is available to make improvements to owner occupied homes where one of the occupants is either elderly, under the age of 18, or disabled. Improvements can include, but is not limited to, electrical, plumbing, roofing, heating and air conditioning, and ADA accessibility improvements. Homeowners may obtain an application either:

- 1) online at www.ajcity.net/rehab;
- 2) by phone at (480) 474-2635; or
- 3) by picking one up at City Hall 300 East Superstition Blvd in

the Development Services Building

Funding is available on a first come first serve basis, so applicants are advised not to wait. For more information call (480) 474-2635.

Did you say FREE?

The city is offering Apache Junction residents free reflective house numbers with help from the Friends of Apache Junction and the Allstate Foundation. This offer is on a first come first serve basis, so call today 480-474-2635.

Free Dump Week is provided one week every quarter, Monday through Saturday from 6 a.m. to 4 p.m. For further information and the specific dates, please contact the Apache Junction Landfill at (480) 982-7003.

Busy Bee Home Maintenance Tips

Arizona is notorious for its dry weather. Here are some plants that will provide beauty to your yard and cost little to no money for water and maintenance.

Echinocactus grusoni—a golden spined cactus that can reach up to 4 feet tall. Small yellow flowers top the plant in the summer.

Nassella tenuissima—wispy green blades grow to 2 feet tall.

Sedum spathulifolium Cape Blanco—tiny blue-green leaves form rosettes and make great ground cover.

Sedum rupestre ‘Angelina’ - short chartreuse leaves grow on 6 inch stems. This succulent grows freely and can be used for fill or ground cover.

Lavandula multifida—a silver foliage that can reach to 3 feet tall and topped with violet blooms.



If you have a question or comment about anything written in this newsletter, please contact:
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Housing Division
300 E. Superstition Blvd.
Apache Junction, Arizona 85119
Phone: (480) 474-2635
Fax: (480) 474-5102
TDD: (480) 983-0095
www.ajcity.net
hpatel@ajcity.net
Monday to Thursday 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

RESOURCES

A Project Connect event will be held on Friday, February 8, 2019 from 3:00—6:00 p.m. at Centerstage Church 550 South Ironwood Drive. This event is a one-day, one-stop event to provide access to free services, resources, and referrals for the community. On-site services will include: rental assistance, vision screenings, employment assistance, tax preparation assistance, and more.

HOUSING PROGRAM GOALS:

1. Eliminate health and safety hazards in homes;
2. Benefit low to moderate income residents; and
3. Improve neighborhoods and encourage stability.

Housing Funnies



Arizona summers are so hot, even the cactus is trying to escape.

ACCESSIBILITY The City of Apache Junction invites and welcomes people of all abilities to use our programs, sites and facilities. Any question about our service for people with disabilities can be answered by the city’s ADA Coordinator (480) 474-2635, TDD (480) 983-0095, or adacoordinator@ajcity.net. Additional information may be found at www.ajcity.net/ada.