LINCOLN MILITARY HOUSING

COMMUNITY

Proudly serving the residents of Hampton Roads *December 2013*

Don't wait for next month's newsletter to find out what is going on in your community! Be sure to "Like" our Facebook page & subscribe to our blog!

IN THIS ISSUE:

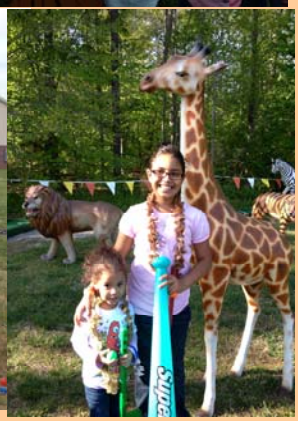
- *Resident Reminders*
- *Holiday Light Policy*
- *Guest Policy*
- *Holiday Hours*
- *Maintenance Tip of the Month*
- *Community Services Website*
- *Holiday Spending Tips*
- *Holiday Safety Tips*
- *Living Green*
- *Events & Community News*

LINCOLN MILITARY HOUSING

Every Mission Begins at Home®

WWW.LMHCARES.COM
HTTP://LINCOLNRECP.COM/

Looking back on the past year, Lincoln Military Housing hopes that the memories created from our events are ones held near and dear to your hearts. Wishing your family a very Happy New Year and more fun with us in 2014!



Resident Reminders

Holiday Lights

- Holiday Lighting is authorized for use between the hours of 5:00pm and 12:00am from Thanksgiving Day until the second weekend in January.
- Avoid overuse of extension cords.
- Lighting may not be left on when there is no one home.
- Gutter clips, or any other device required to affix 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 or windows, siding or brick exterior of homes.

Holiday Hours

All district housing **offices will be closed Wednesday, December 25th**.

Offices will resume their normal business hours on Thursday, December 26th.

For maintenance issues, please call Lincoln At Your Service, our 24-hour hot line, at 1-888-578-4141.

Remember, this is a toll free service request line, not a local call.

We wish you and your family a safe and happy Holiday!

Leaving for the Holidays?

If you are planning on leaving the area to visit friends and family during the holiday, please stop by our office and fill out an extended absence form. This will let Lincoln know where you will be and your care takers information in case of an emergency. You never know what could happen while you are away. Give yourself the peace of mind knowing your home will be cared for.

Guest Policy

With the holidays often comes guests into our home. We wanted to send this friendly reminder on our Guest policy, also located in the Guest Handbook.

Guests of Residents are welcome in the Community. A Guest is defined as a relative or friend who is visiting a Resident's home for a few hours ***up to fifteen (15) days****. Guests must comply with all rules and regulations contained on the Lease, Addenda and Community Handbook. The Resident will be responsible and accountable for the actions and behavior of their Guests.*

Residents must notify the District Office, in writing, within 72 hours of a Guest's arrival if the Guest will be staying more than fifteen (15) consecutive days. Normally Guests may not be in the home more than 30 days; however exceptions for family members visiting for extended periods for the purpose of assisting the Resident (ie newborn, illness, etc) may be granted by the DM on a case-by-case basis, and must be submitted in advance in writing.

Please contact your District Office if you have any questions on this policy.

Maintenance Tip of the Month

- As we head into the colder weather and freezing temperatures, please be sure to **disconnect and remove all outside hoses**.
- If temperatures are expected to be 28 degrees or below for at least 4 hours, turn your **outside faucets to a slow drip** (5 drops per minute). Be sure to turn off the faucets after the threat of freezing weather. Reminder signs will be put out around property when necessary.

RECP CORNER

If you have not already turned in your RECP Lease addendum, please visit your site office and complete yours TODAY!

JointheConversation

Facebook

Be sure to "like" us on Facebook!

New Community Services Website

Have you registered for the new Community Services website? You don't want to miss out on hearing about upcoming events, contests and giveaways. The Community Services website has the most up-to-date information on your ***FREE*** events and programs.

To Register:

www.LincolnMilitaryResident.com

You will need your **resident ID code** &**service members last name**.

Verify your family members name(s) and date of birth are accurate, if you need to make any changes call your District Office.

To effectively communicate, we prefer your email address is a family email address, not a military or .mil email.

Please remember Community Services events are for Lincoln Military Housing Residents only. Family members not listed on your page 2 with your Resident Services Office will not be permitted to attend events and will not appear online for event registration.

Questions or need help? Contact your Resident Services Office today!

Lincoln Military Housing

Every Mission Begins at Home®

Holiday Spending Tips

by Brett Ives, MBA, AFC, NAS Oceana Fleet & Family Support Center, Financial Educator

The holiday season is upon us, and if you find yourself still paying for last year's presents and festivities, we have some tips to help you to avoid taking on more debt to in order to spread cheer this year.

- **Have a spending plan.** The first step to planning for the holiday season, and everyday living for that matter, is to have a spending plan. I will note that we offer classes on "Developing Your Spending Plan" and "How to Survive the Holidays Financially" at your local Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC). Sit down and review your LES and pay statements, then list and analyze all of your expenses for each month. If you need a budget worksheet, ask FFSC or your Command Financial Specialist (CFS) for a copy. An FFSC Financial Educator or your CFS can sit down with you and your spouse to assist in developing your personal plan.
- **Create a list (and check it twice).** Another very helpful tool is "The Cost of Our Happy Holidays" worksheet, available by visiting your local FFSC office or call to receive a PDF via e-mail. This sheet acts as a guide to assist you with planning and tracking your holiday spending by listing all of your loved ones who you plan to gift. This sheet also allows you to set a limit on your spending for each person on your list, and it provides tracking of expenses from decorations, wrapping paper and a Christmas tree, to holiday cards, travel, and postage expenses. Just as Santa creates a list, you too should make a list and stick to it; no unnecessary or unplanned extras should be bought on impulse.
- **Utilize military discounts.** Everywhere you shop you should always ask if a military discount is offered. Many retailers will not offer these discounts unless you ask, and you may be surprised to find small businesses or those away from military installations may offer a discount just because you asked.
- **Take advantage of price matching**. The NEX offers Holiday Layaway through December 15th and price matching, including select internet sites: Target, Walmart, Best Buy, Sears, Toys R Us, Babies R Us, and Amazon (excluding marketplace). There is a 14 Day Price Guarantee: Simply bring in a current, local competitor's ad for an identical item (same brand, size, manufacturer, and model number) and they will match the price!* The major advantage is that you will not have to pay tax, so even a small price match is worth it for the fact that you will benefit from the sales tax savings.
- **Research items before you buy them.** One way to do this is to scan a barcode with your smartphone to price shop by instantly comparing the price to other retailers. Check your phone's app store for a QR/barcode reader app.

The final word of advice I will offer is to begin planning for next year's holiday season right away. This can be accomplished by analyzing your expenses after this holiday season, and beginning a holiday savings account where you take your total holiday expenditures, divide the amount by twelve, and put that amount away each month. When the next holiday shopping season arrives, you will have the money needed to take care of all your holiday expenses while avoiding new debt.

Holiday Deals and Steals

Retailers that offer military discounts

Anna's Linens
Aeropostale
American Eagle Outfitters
Banana Republic
Champs
DTLR
H&M
Finishline
Foot Action
Footlocker
Gordon's Jewelers
Helzberg Diamonds
Jessica McClintock
The Limited
Torrid
New York & Co.
Kirkland's
Old Navy
Home Depot
Lowe's
Piercing Pagoda
Stride Rite
Express/Express Men
Hot Topic

Retailers that offer price matching

Wal-Mart
Navy Exchange
Target
Nordstrom
Best Buy
Sears
Staples
Home Depot

BONUS Info!

Don't forget to check out these helpful websites for more deals and tips!

www.blackfriday.com
www.cybermonday.com
www.nrf.com (national federation of retailers for more tips)
www.retailmenot.com
www.couponcabin.com
www.coupons.com
www.ebates.com—online rebate site
www.mrrebates.com—online rebate site
www.troopswap.com—a Groupon like site for military

***Policies for military discounts and price matching vary with each retailer and are subject to change. Most policies are available for view via the internet. Please check with the individual retailer for more information**

FLEET & FAMILY SUPPORT CENTERS
MID-ATLANTIC REGION

Holiday Safety Tips

Decorating Safely

- Never use lighted candles near trees, curtains/drapes, or with any potentially flammable item.
- Small children may think that holiday plants look good enough to eat, but many plants may be poisonous or can cause severe stomach problems. Plants to watch out for include: mistletoe, Jerusalem cherry or amaryllis. Keep all of these plants out of children's reach.
- If getting a fresh cut tree, be sure to ask them to cut 2 inches off the trunk so that the tree does not dry out so quickly.
- Stand your tree away from heat sources. Make sure the tree does not block foot traffic or doorways.
- Avoid placing breakable tree ornaments on the lower branches if you have small children in the home, you want to keep them out of the reach of small children and pets.
- Only use indoor lights indoors (and outdoor lights only outdoors). Look for the UL label. Check lights for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, and loose connections. Replace or repair any damaged light set.
- Use no more than three light sets on any one extension cord. Extension cords should be placed against the wall to avoid tripping hazards, but do not run cords under rugs, around furniture legs or across doorways.
- Turn off lights on trees and decorations when you go to bed or leave the house. Unplug extension cords when not in use.
- If using a natural tree, make sure its well watered to avoid dry branches from catching fire from the heat of the light bulbs.

Hosting and Food Safety

- When preparing a holiday meal for friends and family be sure to wash hands, utensils, sink, and anything else that has come into contact with raw poultry. Keep in mind that a stuffed bird takes longer to cook.
- Never defrost food at room temperature. Thaw it in the refrigerator, in cold water or in the microwave.
- When reheating leftovers, bring the temperature up to at least 165 degrees to eliminate any bacterial growth.
- Refrigerate or freeze leftovers in covered shallow containers (less than two inches deep) within two hours after cooking. Date the leftovers for future use.
- Be a smart party host or guest when it comes to alcohol drinks. More than half of all traffic fatalities are alcohol-related. Be sure to use designated drivers, people who do not drink, to drive other guests home after a holiday party. Use the free taxi services to drive you home such as Tow to Go when you aren't able to.
- The holiday season is one of the most stressful times of year. You can't avoid stress completely, but you can give yourself some relief. Allow enough time to shop for gifts and meal items rather than hurry through stores and parking lots. Fleet and Family Support Centers here in the Hampton Roads area offer numerous classes on everything from budgeting, traveling, etc to help survive the holidays.

This Month's Living Green Tips

Lincoln Military Housing is continuing the fight to go green. It's our planet, so let's do our part and "Live Green"! Have a safe and eco-friendly holiday season!

December Living Green Tips:

This time of year, Americans throw away more than any other time of the year. With all of the extra gift wrapping and gift packaging, it is important to recycle and reuse as much as possible. Try to reuse as much gift wrap as possible and save any extra bows, ribbons, or bags that can be reused. Remember that you can always reuse old items or things like newspaper to wrap gifts. If you do need to buy new gift wrap, make sure it' eco-friendly. Try to save and reuse packaging like boxes and bubble wrap if you need to mail any gifts. You can also recycle any old items such as electronics that you may have if they're replaced by new gifts once the holidays are over. Things like computer monitors, laptops, cell phones and computers can all be recycled.

The Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia

Together, we can solve hunger. Collecting food for those in need is the first step. Everybody can help us eliminate hunger in our community...one can at a time.

TOP TEN Donation Needs

Peanut Butter
Chunky Soups
Canned Meats
Canned Tuna
Canned Vegetables
Juice
Cereal
Macaroni and Cheese
Pasta
Pasta Sauces

To locate your nearest food drop off site or to learn more about The Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia, please visit: www.foodbankonline.org.

Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore

Events and Community News

MWR NAS Oceana presents the annual

Tree Lighting Event

December 6th
6-8PM
At the NAS Oceana
MWR Youth Center

Pictures with Santa, Inflatables, crafts, games, hayride, Hot chocolate & Cookies. Lighting of the tree at 7pm with Santa and XO of NAS Oceana.

Holiday Lights at the Beach
Runs until January 1st

- On the boardwalk between 2nd and 34th Streets
- Hours of operation are 5:30pm-10:00pm Sunday through Thursday and 5:30pm-11:00pm Friday-Saturday.
- On "Military Mondays," military receive a 50% discount each Monday night from November 25-December 30.

Norfolk Botanical Garden: Garden of Lights

Don't miss Hampton Road's favorite holiday tradition. Bring your family and friends to our 19th annual light show extravaganza for a magical holiday experience.

Starts Thanksgiving night through December 31st.
Open 5:30PM -10:00PM

Cost: PER CAR - $15 (Mon-Thurs), $20 (Fri-Sat)
Military Monday Appreciation Night: $10 per car (Military ID Required)

6700 Azalea Garden Road Norfolk, VA 23518 USA
Phone: 757-441-5830

Ice Palace at MacArthur Center
Norfolk, VA

Be transformed into a winter wonderland as you enter this 30-foot ice dome with falling snow. This is a free exhibit. For complete details visit: *www.shopmacarthur.com/holidays*

AAA Tidewater wants to keep drivers safe this holiday season. This program provides a safe alternative to drinking and driving. The services is available until 6:00AM on January 1st, 2014.

Tow to Go Services:

- Service is provided in the Greater Hampton Roads area including Virginia Beach, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Chesapeake, Suffolk, Newport News, Hampton, Poquoson, Yorktown, and Williamsburg.
- Free and available to both AAA members and non-members.
- A tow truck will take the vehicle and driver home.

757-631-1700 or 1-800-AAA-HELP
Simply tell the dispatcher, "I need a Tow to Go".

For complete details and restrictions visit http://autoclubsouth.aaa.com or call 1-800-AAA-Help.

Have a safe Holiday Season!

2013 Holiday Assistance Programs in Hampton Roads

Military Assistance

NAS Oceana/Dam neck Annex:	(757) 433-2031
Naval Station Norfolk Chapel:	(757) 444-7361
NWS Yorktown Nelson Chapel	(757) 887-4711
JEB Little Creek Chapel:	(757) 462– 7427

Food Assistance

Salvation Army	(757) 543-8100
Food Bank	(757) 627-6599
SHARE	(757) 596-7188

From our family to yours, we wish you a safe and happy holiday season!

Lincoln Military Housing
Every Mission Begins at Home®

Community Services Department

Phone: 757-961-7530 Fax: 757-961-1802
Email: CSHR@LPSI.COM
Website: WWW.LINCOLNMILITARYRESIDENT.COM

Community Services Director	Brooke Scarbrough
Community Services Coordinator *JFSC, Midway Manor, Naval Station, Oceana, Portsmouth*	Libby Lamb
Community Services Coordinator *Little Creek, Northwest, Willoughby Bay, Whitehurst Farm, Yorktown*	Adrianna Thomas