

Things To Know Before You Rent

1. A lease (even a month to month agreement) protects you and the property owner.
2. Pay your rent on time. If you are going to be late, it's better to talk with your landlord before the rent is due. Make sure you get a receipt!
3. If repairs are needed, contact the landlord or property manager RIGHT AWAY. *Note the date you called.
4. Be a good neighbor by keeping the inside, porch, and common areas clean, and taking out your trash after 6pm the evening before garbage collection days.



Expense Checklist

How much is the rent? _____

What utilities do I have to pay and how much will they cost per month?

Electric _____

Gas _____

Water _____

Internet _____

Cable _____

Are pets allowed: Yes No

Who to call if there is a problem:

Help is Available!

For General housing or other services:

Contact Chautauqua Opportunities at www.chautauquaopportunities.com or call: 716-661-9430/ 716-366-8176.

Lead Paint Questions:

Call the Health Department: 716-753-4481

Housing Discrimination Questions:

Call LawNY: 716-664-4535

For Assistance With Heating Bills:

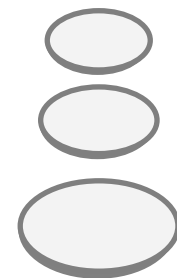
Contact the HEAP Office at 716-753-4385.

Code Enforcement :

If you believe that the building does not meet code standards and the property owner is not addressing the issue, call the City, Town, or Village where you live and ask to speak with a Code Enforcement Officer.

Apartment Hunting

Things to Know Before You Rent



Everyone Deserves a Safe and Healthy Home.

Use the following checklist to make sure the place you rent meets the basic County, State, and local health and safety standards.

Safety and Security

- Every bedroom or sleeping area has a window.
- You can easily get to a window or door in case of fire.
- Doors/windows open, close and lock.
- Windows have screens.
- Working smoke detectors and a carbon monoxide detector in unit.
- A fire extinguisher is in the unit.
- No bare electric wires, or black/scorched areas around electric outlets.
- Floors and stairs are free from holes or broken boards.
- A railing is on all stairways.
- Paint is not chipping, peeling, or crackled, especially around windows and doors. **It could be lead paint, which is poisonous to young children.*



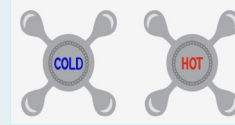
Scorched Outlet



Chipping Paint

Heat, Water, Electric & Appliances

- Hot and cold running water.
- Water drains from sinks and tub.
- Toilet flushes.
- Ask how the unit is heated. Be sure it works properly.
- Make sure appliances (fridge, stove, washer or dryer) work.



Mold

- The inside is free of mold (check in bathrooms and kitchens).

**Not all mold is a health hazard, but it is a sign of a moisture problem that should be fixed before you move in.*



Mold

Pests

- No signs of mice, bedbugs, or cockroaches in the apartment or in the building.
- No trash on outside or in common areas.



Cockroaches in Drawer

Bedbugs

The epa.gov website advises to watch for the following signs:

Bugs “In the seams of chairs and couches, between cushions, in the folds of curtains.



Bedbug 1

In drawer joints.

In electrical receptacles and appliances.

Under loose wall paper and wall hangings.

At the junction where the wall and the ceiling meet.” 2



NOTES:

- https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/8/87/Bed_bug%2C_Cimex_lectularius.jpg
- <https://www.epa.gov/bedbugs/how-find-bed-bugs>