

Department Mission

The mission of the Department of Housing and Neighborhood Preservation (DHNP) is to create quality solutions that expand housing opportunities and promote, vibrant, well-maintained neighborhoods.

The department's responsibilities in fulfilling this mission include:

- Leveraging federal, state and private resources
- Implementing proactive and preventive code enforcement activities
- Developing partnerships with neighborhoods, private and trade organizations
- Assisting and facilitating citizens to identify and take action to solve housing and neighborhood problems



Key Information Resources

The department can provide the following information resources to citizens upon request:

- **Annual Plan for Federal Funds (CSP)**
Summarizes all the planned activities we undertake using federal funds.
- **Annual Report on the Use of Federal Funds (CAPER)**
Provides results of all activities funded by federal funds.
- **Listing of Affordable Housing**
A list of privately-owned affordable housing.



Housing Resources

The department provides and supports a variety of resources to help people obtain, keep and maintain housing. However, the department neither owns nor operates any housing itself. Please note that all programs have eligibility requirements that may vary. Your individual circumstances must be evaluated to determine if you can be assisted.

Housing Counseling and Information

Staff are available to help you identify potential places to live and how to qualify and make application. **Call 757-385-5750.**

Emergency Housing

The Department of Human Services (Social Services Division/Resource Development Unit) assists with emergency housing. Their services are available during city office hours. **Call 757-437-3200.** After hours, please contact the various emergency providers listed on our website, www.VBgov.com/housing, under "Housing Emergency and Homeless Assistance."

Temporary/Short Term Financial Assistance with Housing

DHNP and the Department of Human Services may be able to assist people with temporary needs due to financial or housing crises. Programs include assistance to avoid losing rental housing, to move out of unsafe housing, and to help obtain rental housing. **Call DHNP at 757-385-5750 or the Department of Human Services at 757-437-3200.**

Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8/Rental Housing)

Provides monthly rental subsidy to help people afford rental housing. The waiting list for the program is currently closed. **For information, call 757-385-5750.**



Home Ownership

Virginia Beach Community Development Corporation
Potential home buyers who need assistance with down payments and closing costs should contact the Virginia Beach Community Development Corporation to see if you qualify. VBCDC has homes for sale and conducts homeownership classes. **Call 757-463-9516.**

Community Housing Partners

Community Housing Partners offers homeownership education and homebuyer assistance in partnership with DHNP. **Call CHP at 757-422-9664.**

VBCDC Affordable Housing

The Virginia Beach Community Development Corporation (VBCDC) is supported by DHNP and operates a variety of affordable housing programs. **Contact VBCDC at 757-463-9516.**

Workforce Housing

Affordable rental or homeownership opportunities created by private developers using a density bonus program. **Call 757-385-5742** or visit DHNP's website, www.VBgov.com/housing, for full information.

Home Repair Financing

We offer programs that can assist eligible people with the funding needed for repairs and improvements. We also support and help connect people to volunteer groups looking for community projects that can help people with certain repairs and property clean-ups. **Call 757-385-5750.**

Financing for Other Organizations

The department provides grant opportunities for non-profit organizations wishing to develop or maintain affordable housing. In addition, we coordinate city review of applications for bond financing or support of tax credit projects. **Call 757-385-5750.**

housing



Shelter and Housing for the Homeless

The department is an active partner in the Virginia Beach Homeless Advocacy and Resources Partnership (VBHARP), which consists of non-profit, public and faith-based organizations serving the homeless. They include:

Volunteers of America 757-437-4911

Day support services and overnight shelter (October through April)

Judeo-Christian Outreach Center 757-491-2846

Educational services, food, shelter

Samaritan House 757-430-2120

Shelter for households with children and for victims of domestic violence

Seton House 757-498-4673

Short-term housing and support services for homeless youth

Virginia Beach Community Development Corporation 757-463-9516

Shelter for families and transitional housing

Vetshouse, Inc. 757-306-1000

Housing and support for homeless veterans

Community Alternatives Management Group 757-468-7000

Housing and services for persons with disabilities



Code Enforcement

The Code Enforcement Division enforces the maintenance provisions of the Uniform Statewide Building Code for existing structures and City property maintenance codes. Enforcement of these codes is through complaint response, inspectors patrolling their area and through systematic exterior neighborhood inspections. The appropriate responsible party is notified by a notice being mailed to the last known address. The time allowed to correct the violations varies from two days to 30 days depending on the violation. Extensions of time to correct violations may be granted due to practical difficulties. Complaints can be reported by calling **385-4421** or online at www.VBgov.com/housing by clicking on “Register a Complaint” under “Related Pages.” A list of City ordinances that Code Enforcement enforces can be found on the department’s website. To view a more detailed list of City codes go to www.VBgov.com/housing. Click on “Online Services” near the top, “Search Code & Ordinances,” then “Virginia Beach City Code.” At left of screen go to “Chapter 16 Housing and Building Maintenance Code” under “Code.” Property Maintenance Codes are found in Chapter 23; Waste Management Codes are found in Chapter 31.

- **Building Maintenance Code** – Maintenance requirements for the interior and exterior of existing buildings.
- **Certificate of Compliance Rental Inspection Program (City Code 16-12.1)** – Interior and exterior inspections of rental units within the Rental Inspection District (106 census tract block groups designated by City Council).
- **Accumulation of Litter / Overgrowth of Weeds and Grass (City Code 23-50)** – Prohibits the accumulation of litter and the growth of weeds/grass in excess of 10 inches on private property.
- **Open Storage of Junk (City Code 23-48)** – Prohibits the open storage of items which are rusted, wrecked, junked, dismantled or inoperative on private property.
- **Inoperable Vehicle Ordinance (City Code 16-40)** - Vehicles must be in operating condition and must display either a valid state license plate or a valid inspection sticker.
- **Waste Management (City Code Chapter 31)** – Enforcement of codes dealing with the proper placement of trash and recycle receptacles; special pick-up items such as furniture and appliances; out of regulation items such as construction debris, carpet, glass and mirrors.



- **Graffiti Abatement Program** – Abatement of graffiti on private property by painting or power-washing at no cost to the owners, if a release is signed.
- **Systematic Exterior Inspections** - All dwellings and premises in a neighborhood are inspected for building and property maintenance code violations.
- **Unsafe Buildings** - Vacant, open buildings, dilapidated buildings are required to be secured from casual entry within 48 hours and must be repaired or removed within 30 days. Buildings may be secured or demolished by the city’s contractor upon failure to comply.
- **Unsafe Appliances** – Unsafe appliances “red-tagged” by the gas or electric companies or the Fire Department are referred to the Code Enforcement Division to ensure the unsafe condition is brought into compliance.

neighborhoods

The Department of Housing and Neighborhood Preservation (DHNP) provides a variety of services and information to help support the City Council’s goals for the City. This publication provides a brief summary of these services and information. Please contact us for more details on our programs and services.

2424 Courthouse Drive
Municipal Center, Building 18A
Virginia Beach, VA 23456
phone: 757-385-5750
TDD: 757-385-5794
fax: 757-385-5766
email: HouseNP@VBgov.com
website: www.VBgov.com/housing



DHNP DOES BUSINESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FEDERAL FAIR HOUSING LAW AND SECTION 504 PROGRAM ACCESSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS. IT IS ILLEGAL TO DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ANY PERSON BECAUSE OF RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, SEX, HANDICAP, FAMILIAL STATUS, OR NATIONAL ORIGIN.



Connecting



People,



Housing and



Neighborhoods

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