



WWW.NATICKHA.ORG



STAFFING UPDATES



Dear Residents:
We have a new Housing Coordinator Linda Rodriguez joining NHA. Linda will be responsible for

Cedar Garden Units 2-118, West Hill Park, School Street and Scattered Sites. Carianna Williams, our recently hired Housing Coordinator, has moved on to another position. Please welcome Linda. Thank you again for your patience as we train and get our new staff up to speed.

Randy Waters
NHA Executive Director

NEW NHA OFFICE HOURS

8:00am-4:00pm Monday-Friday. The office will closed on Monday Oct 9th for Indigenous People Day.

FUN FACTS

Take a look at these interesting facts about Massachusetts!

Did you know that Massachusetts got its name from a Native American Tribe called Massachusett?

- Massachusett means the Great Hill or Great Mountain, which is said to refer to the Blue Hills just south of Boston (the capital of Massachusetts).

Everyone knows that Massachusetts is a very historical place where many of America’s firsts happened:

- The first Thanksgiving, the first telephone, the first post office, and the first subway system to name a few.
- Massachusetts has a State Berry: The Cranberry
- Most people don’t know that Massachusetts has the second-largest cranberry crop in the nation!



The Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Communications Commission will partner to test the Emergency Alert System and Wireless

Emergency Alerts on Americans’ phones across the country. This two-part test is scheduled to begin at 2 p.m. EST, according to FEMA. The EAS test portion of the test will affect radios and televisions and last about a minute. The message to accompany the test will say, “This is a nationwide test of the Emergency Alert System, issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, covering the United States from 14:20 to 14:50

hours ET. This is only a test. No action is required by the public.”

Wireless cell phones should receive only one test text, with broadcast towers carrying out the tests for around 30 minutes. The message will read “THIS IS A TEST of the National Wireless Emergency Alert System. No action is needed.”



MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT
OCT 15th-DEC 7th

Medicare plans change every year. This is the time to decide on your coverage for 2024!

MEDICAID OPEN ENROLLMENT
Nov. 1st – JAN 23rd



Health Insurance Counseling (SHINE)
SHINE

appointments will be available at **Cedar Gardens on Nov. 7th and 28th** and at **Coolidge on Nov. 15th and 29th**. Please sign up on the bulletin board or call Jane 508-653-2971 X 206.

SHINE appointments in person and over the phone are available through the **Natick Council on Aging**. Please call 508-647-6540.

PLEASE DO NOT PUT FOOD WASTE IN THE RECYCLE BINS!

THANKSGIVING DINNERS

Volunteers from Natick’s Open Door will be offering home delivered Thanksgiving Dinners for Natick Housing Authority residents. If you would like a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner delivered to you, at no cost, on Thanksgiving Day, please sign up on the bulletin board, email Jane JPurser@natickha.org or call 508-653-2971 X206. Please leave your request with your name, address and phone number by **Monday, November, 13th**.

Please note that you can request one dinner per household member with a limit of two meals per household, and you must be at home on Thanksgiving Day to receive the delivery.

CEDAR GARDENS

Natick Board of Health Flu Vaccine Clinic 1:00-3:00pm, **Thursday, Oct. 5th** Cedar Garden Community Hall. Please bring your insurance card and Medicare card. Please sign up on the bulletin board.

Health & Wellness and Blood Pressure Clinic. Monday, October 16th 1:30-2:30pm, Cedar Gardens Community Hall. Come by and visit with Heidi Harper, Natick’s Public Health Nurse. Sharp boxes are available for safely disposing of used needles. Dropoff full sharps containers.

INSPECTIONS of all Cedar Garden Units will be completed in

November. A separate letter will be sent with the date and time. Please be sure your unit is ready for inspection.

**Cedar Gardens
Tenant
Organization**

*(A member of the Massachusetts
Union of Public Housing Tenants –
MUPHT)*

(508) 907-7297

**Sandra Green, President
Deborah Doucette, Vice
President
Lynn Sanderson, Treasurer
Donna Denault, Secretary**

- **Let’s talk about medications!** **Tuesday Oct. 17th, 7-8:00pm.** Cedar Garden Community Hall Come talk with the Pine Hill Pharmacist about your medications to be sure they are compatible. Bring your list of medications. All information is confidential. Sign up in the Community Hall.
- **Saturday, Oct. 28th, 10am-4pm.** Community Hall Private Party. Please do not use the hall during these hours.
- **Clothing Recycle Bins** – 2 bins are being placed at Cedar Gardens for recycled clothing. One bin in the parking lot on the hill between building **W** and **S** and next to the bus shelter near building **N**. It is a state requirement that all textiles must be recycled now and not thrown in the trash. **NO DUMPING!** Clothing and shoes only.
- **Friday, Nov. 17th 4-6:00PM** *Mark your calendars!* Happy Holidays! Come enjoy music by the *Golden Tones* and a **FREE** Chinese dinner. Signup sheet will be on the wall in Nov.

- **The CGTO is looking for a Library Coordinator** - We are looking for a volunteer to straighten and organize the library in the Community Hall on a regular basis. Please contact Sandra 508-907-7297.

CGTO Office Hours - Wednesdays from 9am-12pm or call 508-907-7297 to leave a message. Please include name and phone number

COOLIDGE GARDENS

Natick Board of Health Flu Vaccine Clinic 1:00-3:00PM, Wednesday, **Oct. 4th**, Coolidge Board Room. Please bring your insurance card and Medicare card. Please sign up on bulletin board.

1:30PM, Wednesday, Oct. 18th BINGO & Game Day. Come have some fun with your neighbors. We’ll have bingo, word searches and other games available to play.

FAMILY NEWS



Massachusetts now has FREE community college.

A new state scholarship program, [Mass Reconnect](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/mass-reconnect), covers community college costs for residents over 25 who have not previously earned a degree or certificate.

[MassReconnect](https://www.mass.gov/info-details/mass-reconnect) is a new program that can help you earn a degree or certificate for free and put you one step closer to your dream career. MassReconnect, led by the Department of Higher Education in partnership with Massachusetts’ public community colleges, will make higher education more affordable and accessible to students across the Commonwealth.

If you are 25 or older, MassReconnect will pay for all your tuition and fees and will provide you with an allowance to cover your books and

supplies. All you have to do is apply to your [local community college](#) and complete the [23-24 FAFSA](#) (Free Application for Student Aid). Enroll at a Massachusetts community college at any time. MassReconnect awards will be made directly by the community colleges at the point of enrollment throughout the academic year.

COMMUNITY NEWS ADVISORY FOR NATICK RESIDENTS—Uptick in COVID-19 Cases

Please be aware that COVID-19 cases are on the rise in Massachusetts. Be mindful of your personal risks and take necessary precautions. For more information, please visit Massachusetts Department of Public Health's page on COVID-19 at this link: <https://www.mass.gov/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19>. COVID tests are available in the RSC office and NHA office.



OPEN DOOR

The Elks Lodge
95 Speen Street,
Natick (near Roche
Bros.) This is on the MWRTA Route. Every **Monday** at 5pm. Free for Everyone! Donations welcome.

MOBILE FARMERS' MARKET

NSC will distribute fresh fruits and



Natick Service Council

Neighbors helping Neighbors

vegetables, eggs, milk, butter and lean proteins.

Mon., Oct. 2nd, Household 1-2 at NSC

Mon., Oct. 16: Households 3+ at NSC

Mon., Oct. 23: 1:30pm **outside Cedar Gardens Community Room.**

Regular pantry hours Tuesday 10-2, Wednesday 2-5, Thursday 2-6.

Natick Service Council schedules appointments one month in advance. (508-655-1791) Call ASAP to book November farmers market and pantry appointments! You must be a client of NSC to access the mobile market.

Brack Center Walk-in Hours

October 19, 11:00am-3:00pm.

Drop-in or make an appointment to meet with a mentor to discuss your job search, resume, LinkedIn, interviews, etc.

NSC now has fall clothing in **Harriet's Closet**. Please call to schedule an appointment for fall shopping.

NHA Board Meeting

October meeting date is TBD. It will be posted on the bulletin board.

All residents are welcome to attend in person.

RENT

Please be advised rent is due on the 1st of the month and late after the 7th. Please pay your rent on time.

Please leave all general questions, work orders and emergencies during work hours on Ext. 200. Emergencies after hours, follow prompts to service.

RSC, Jane Purser Office Hours 9am-3pm Monday – Thursday.

All residents are welcome to call/visit at any time. 508-653-2971 X206

Coolidge Gardens Office

Mon. 9am-1pm

Tues. 12-3pm

Wed. 9am 3pm

Thurs. 9am -1pm

Cedar Gardens Office

Mon. 1-3pm

Tues. 10am-12pm

Thurs. 1-3pm

FALL WORD SEARCH

H J N I F I P J K R F H R E T
A D M B Z O R U E T F J E Y H
L I U F T W O B M V R F W R A
L Y T N B R O T E P A J O E N
O Y U A Z T N Y B C K S L B K
W J A T C J D R S A E I F M S
E G L O F N D S O E L Q N E G
E S W E A T E R E C V L U V I
N C C C I D E R H L A A S O V
S I E D I R Y A H P P T E N I
O W O R C E R A C S U P M L N
W I Y C G V Y A F R G T A W G
N L D T E Y Y K K P I E I X E
J Q R S L X R E B M E T P E S
Y E T E V G Y T H W I C K U J

ACORN

FOOTBALL

NOVEMBER

SEPTEMBER

APPLES

HALLOWEEN

OCTOBER

SUNFLOWER

AUTUMN

HARVEST

PUMPKIN

SWEATER

CANDY

HAYRIDE

RAKE

THANKSGIVING

CIDER

LEAVES

SCARECROW

TURKEY

QUICK - Resource List

Natick Housing Authority: (508) 653-2971. www.natickha.org

Natick Service Council/Food Pantry: (508) 655-1791

www.natickservicecouncil.org

Natick Community Senior Center: 508-647-6540

Natick Police: (508) 647-9500

Natick Fire Dept: (508) 647-9550

NHA Emergency Number:

For maintenance emergencies (i.e. flood, no hot water, no heat, toilet issue) Call 508-653-2971, listen to the prompts and you will be directed to the correct message box.

TRANSPORTATION

The following services are available for Natick residents.

NATICK COUNCIL ON AGING

Natick COA Medical Appointments

The Natick COA will schedule taxi service for residents to medical appointments outside of the MetroWest area. Availability is limited, please call as soon as possible. There is currently no charge for this service. Call the COA at (508) 647-6540 to schedule a taxi at least five (5) business days in advance of your appointment.

Natick Connector

Door-to-door transportation for seniors and residents with disabilities who need local rides to medical appointments, grocery shopping, or other personal needs. The Connector is available Monday through Friday from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm and operates in the following areas: Natick, Framingham, Wellesley, Wayland, and Sherborn (the Ashland Market Basket and

Newton Wellesley Hospital by special request only). Call the MWRTA at (508) 820-4650 to set up an account and schedule a ride.



MWRTA Ride

Paratransit door-to-door, shared ride transportation for eligible individuals who cannot drive or use bus service due to temporary or permanent disability. Call the MWRTA at (508) 935-2222 or the Natick Information & Referral Line at (508) 647-6519 for an application or assistance. There is currently no charge for this service. Call the MWRTA at (508) 935-2222 to schedule a ride.



MWRTA Catch Connect

On-demand door-to-door transportation is available within Natick and Framingham on Saturdays and Sundays from 8:00 am - 6:00 pm. On-demand transportation is available from the Natick Community Senior Center to any location within Wellesley and to Newton Wellesley Hospital on Monday through Friday from 6:45 am to 6:45 pm. There is currently no charge for this service. Rides can be scheduled using the MWRTA Catch App on your device or by calling the MWRTA at (508) 283-5083.

MassHealth

MassHealth members may be eligible for transportation services.

Call the Customer Service line at (800) 841-2900.

MWRTA Boston Hospital Shuttle

Door-to-door service is available on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays to several Boston hospitals. This service runs on a schedule and a completed application is required. There is currently no charge for this service. Call the MWRTA at (508) 820-4650 for an application, schedule information, and assistance.



Springwell (previously BayPath Elder Services) clients may be eligible for transportation to medical appointments. Call your Springwell/BayPath case manager to discuss your options.

Senior Parking Permits

Come into the CSC with a copy of your driver's license to get your permit today. Permits are \$3.00 and allow you to park at any metered spot for 2 hours in town. Residents must be 65+ years old at time of purchase. Good for calendar year 2023; permits for 2024 will be available in December.