

Request free plants for your yard, balcony, or window sill!

Every year CCOC distributes thousands of free flowers, vegetables and herbs to tenants on our Annual Plant Days. To request your plants for May 2024, fill out the order form on the 'Plant Requests' page of the website or return the form below to the CCOC office. We will share further details regarding distribution in the April NewsNotes.

Questions? Contact Hannah at 613-234-4065, ext. 240 or engagement@cchohousing.org.

Deadline: Friday, January 26th

Submit your request form:

Online at cchohousing.org/tenant-services/plant-orders

Mail to CCOC, Suite 200-415 Gilmour St. Ottawa, ON K2P 2M8

In person at 415 Gilmour St Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm or delivered to the dropbox

Name: _____

Address: _____ Apt # _____

Telephone # _____ Ring # _____

E-mail: _____

How many can I order?

- If you have no balcony or yard: up to 4 vegetables.
- If you have a balcony: up to 8 flowers or vegetables.
- If you have a yard or patio: up to 16 flowers or vegetables.

When will the plants be delivered?

- May 4 and 5, 2024

I would like to volunteer ☐

TOTAL REQUEST

FLOWERS	NUMBER	SUN/SHADE
Begonia	_____	S/Sh
Impatiens	_____	S/Sh
Marigolds	_____	S
Pansy	_____	S/Sh
VEGETABLES (need at least half a day of sun)		
Basil	_____	
Cherry Tomatoes	_____	
Parsley	_____	
Snack Peppers	_____	

CCOC NewsNotes
December 2023



Compassion, inclusion, and respect

CCOC provides housing to people of many nationalities, faiths, and cultures, and the coming months bring holidays for many. We also acknowledge that the world can be a hard place right now. Global conflict and local crises impact people's lives in many different ways, and our neighbours may be celebrating and struggling in equal measure. Serious incidents, both close to home and overseas, can reduce folks' sense of safety in their homes.

Compassion, inclusion, and respect aren't seasonal. These are core values that CCOC strives to foster in our community, all year round. We ask that all our tenants, community members, and supporters strive to be a little more curious, a little more empathetic, and a little more patient with each other this season. Wherever you are at this time of year, we hope your home is filled with peace and hope this season, and CCOC wishes you the very best for 2024. - Sarah Button, CCOC Executive Director

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Contact CCOC at
613-234-4065 ext. 0

or email
info@cchohousing.org

"NewsNotes" is written & published by CCOC's communications team. Your comments, submissions and suggestions are welcome. The deadline for submission is the 15th of the month. Contact us at engagement@cchohousing.org.

www.cchohousing.org
[@cchohousing](https://twitter.com/cchohousing)

Please recycle this newsletter!

CCOC Committee Meeting Schedule

STANDING COMMITTEES	DECEMBER	JANUARY	TIME
Tenant & Community Engagement	no meeting	January 8	7:00 pm
Development Committee	no meeting	January 9	7:00 pm
Facilities Management Committee	no meeting	January 17	7:00 pm
Rental Committee	no meeting	January 16	7:00 pm
Finance Committee	no meeting	January 18	7:00 pm
Board	December 13	January 31	7:00 pm

CCOC committee meetings are open to everyone! For more information, please call 613-234-4065 ext. 0 or email engagement@cchohousing.org.

CCOC holiday office closures

The CCOC office closes at noon Friday, December 22nd. The office is also closed Monday, December 25, Tuesday, December 26, and Monday, January 1st. Happy Holidays!

Fermetures des bureaux du CCOC

Le bureau du CCOC ferme à midi le vendredi 22 décembre. Le bureau est également fermé les lundi 25 décembre, mardi 26 décembre et lundi 1er janvier. Joyeuses fêtes!

Seasonal Giving and Receiving

If you have resources to share: Donations of time, money, food, and warm winter clothing are needed. If you can help, contact the organization of your choice for more information.

For those who need a helping hand: There are holiday dinners offered in your community for free for anyone to join. You do not need to phone ahead or RSVP - just show up! You can **call 2-1-1** for more services and help over the holidays.

Keep windows closed during winter

If your apartment gets too hot during the winter months, try setting your thermostat to a lower temperature.

Every winter CCOC gets calls for burst pipes. People open windows in their apartment or in the laundry room for fresh air or to cool things down. If pipes run near the open windows or if the window is left open too long, the pipes will freeze and burst. This floods the apartment or laundry room and usually any apartments below. When this happens, the tenant is responsible for damages and will be billed for repairs.

If you don't have a thermostat to control your heat, or it doesn't seem to work, contact CCOC at 613-234-4065, ext. 0, submit a maintenance request on our website, or email maintenance@cchohousing.org for help.

Keep the Cold Out

Seal your windows

Remove window air conditioners during winter months. Close curtains and blinds at night. **Seal your windows: Pick up a free window sealing kit from the office.**

Seal and weather proof your doors

Seal off patio doors with a door sealing kit from CCOC.

Use a draft blocker

Make your own draft blocker by cutting a leg off of an old pair of tights. Fill it with heavy stuffing—rice or lentils work well. Tie a knot in the end. Place it along the bottom of doors that lead outside. Doors to hallways in apartment buildings are made to ensure good air flow in the building.

Keep the Heat In

Don't block the heat

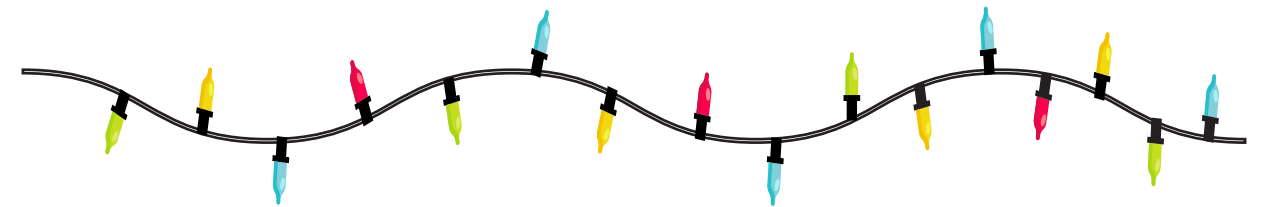
Keep furniture at least a foot away from heaters and vents. Make sure that curtains stop at least one foot above the heater.

Heat the space you're using

Use a space heater to boost the heat in your main living space. Make sure to keep the heat in all rooms at 15°C at a minimum to prevent humidity problems. We recommend a temperature of 20°C during the day and 18°C at night. Every degree above 20°C increases your heating costs by 5 percent!

Let in the sun

Open curtains and blinds during daylight hours to let the sun heat and light your space naturally. **Close your blinds and curtains in the evening** to keep the heat from escaping.



Holiday Fire Safety Tips

- Consider LED lights or battery powered candles instead of candles.
- Don't place decorations around sources of heat like candles or fire places.
- Don't overload power bars or connect extension cords.
- Consider choosing an artificial tree as a safer alternative to a live tree. If live trees dry out, they can catch fire and spread easily!
- If you do have a live tree, make sure to keep it well watered and keep it away from any heat sources.
- Always stay in the kitchen while food is cooking. It may be tempting to leave to visit with company, but turn off the stove first!

Protect our pipes!

While you may not think much about where things go after you flush, the reality is that depending on what it is... it may not go very far at all!

Flushing personal hygiene products such as tampons or wipes (including those marketed as "flushable") can lead to major plumbing issues in your building. Flushing wipes or disposing of things like food and grease can clog your home plumbing, causing sewage backups into your home and expensive repairs to unclog your pipes.

Not only that, but flushing these products can also harm sewer and wastewater treatment systems, clogging equipment and leading to environmental damage and higher treatment costs.

Help prevent costly damages by only flushing the 3 Ps: Pee, Poop and (toilet) Paper!

Completion of the Transforming Tenant Engagement Project

After 3 years of hard work, the Tenant and Community Engagement team is wrapping up its Transforming Tenant Engagement project this December.

With funding provided by the Community Housing Transformation Centre, new resources were created for governance volunteers, outreach materials were developed for volunteer recruitment and staff were able to begin implementing programs that allow for more efficient volunteer management.

CCOC was able to complete a series of successful anti-racism training sessions, which we invite you to learn more about by checking out our new blog post: <https://cchohousing.org/blog/>

Do you want to be on the Tenants Requiring Assistance list?

Do you want to be added to the tenants requiring assistance list? Your safety is our priority. In case of emergency, these lists are made available to first responders.

Please contact your Rental Officer with your full name, address, phone number, email, and the assistance needed.

- Erica Joynt – 613-234-4065 x242 – erica.joynt@cchohousing.org
- Allison Hockin – 613-234-4065 x244 – allison.hockin@cchohousing.org
- Filsan Elmi – 613-234-4065 x224 – filsan.elmi@cchohousing.org
- Joëlle Messier – 613-234-4065 x245 – joelle.messier@cchohousing.org