



Bad River Housing Authority  
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**Office Hours**

Monday-Friday

8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
12-1:00 closed for lunch

**New Emergency  
Phone Number!**

We will begin transitioning from our current emergency pager number to a new emergency maintenance phone number.

**715-292-8847**

**STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION**  
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**-VISION STATEMENT-**

*The vision of the Bad River Housing Authority is to enhance the quality of life of the Bad River Community by being a positive, professional catalyst in creating neighborhoods that are safe, affordable and dynamic places to live, work and play on the Bad River Reservation.*

**-MISSION STATEMENT-**

*The mission of the Bad River Housing Authority is to develop, operate and maintain affordable housing, and to assist Bad River Tribal residents in becoming self-sufficient through workforce development opportunity training and supportive services.*

Visit us online at:

<http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/tribal-operations/housing-a-reality/housing-authority>

**Summer 2016**



BAD RIVER HOUSING AUTHORITY

**Waaka'igan Mazina'igan  
House Paper**



**Birch Hill Gardening—A Cooperative Project**



The gardening season at Birch Hill Community House started off with the delivery of 2 truck beds of soil, 50 strawberry plants, and 2 wooden raised beds. Bad River and Red Cliff students from the TRANS Program (which teaches basic construction skills) built the raised beds and graciously gifted them for the youth to use.

Bad River Food Sovereignty distributed the strawberry plants and U-W Extension contributed the dark and heavy soil from a Moquah dairy farm.

The youth at the community house planted and have been caring for the gardens. They have a big menu for the summer which includes strawberries, raspberries, tasty vegetables, and tea plants. You'll also find them working at the Food Sovereignty high tunnels growing a wide assortment of vegetables and herbs.

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What is Fair Housing?



The Fair Housing Act provides that it is the policy of the United States to provide, within constitutional limitations, for fair housing throughout the United States. The Act, in essence, seeks to reduce barriers to fair housing, but also assists in clarifying fair housing obligations in setting locally-determined priorities. HUD now has an online tool which performs an analysis of the impediments a housing agency has and assists them in meeting their obligation. It reviews what conditions restrict fair housing choices that are creating disparities in access to housing and opportunity as well as any factors contributing to the perpetuation of fair housing issues.

As an Indian Housing Authority we do have some sovereignty in setting local preferences to serve our tribal members. What I see this tool doing for Bad River Housing Authority is helping us to establish fair housing priorities/goals, and to address disproportionate housing needs and disparities in access to opportunities, particularly in serving housing needs of ex-offenders and the homeless. It should help us to further fair housing in our community affirmatively and empower us to take significant actions to overcome any historic discriminatory patterns.

On the ground level, in terms of eligibility and admissions preferences what that might look like is as follows:

- As it pertains to ex-offenders, negative criminal backgrounds would not necessarily routinely make an ex-offender ineligible for housing. This would open opportunities to re-enter the community and pave the way for returning as a productive community member; hopefully paired with community employment opportunities. Legally, sex offenders and those convicted of manufacturing drugs continue to be excluded from eligibility.
- As it pertains to homeless, clarifications as to the definition of who is legally considered homeless and on HUD's previous narrow and restricted interpretation of the CFR that provides for admissions preferences to house homeless families. This significantly increases access to housing program service for those experiencing homelessness simply by elevating those individuals on a waiting list towards the top of the list.

One other area that we will have to address in our community is how to handle housing fairly when domestic violence is present. As a housing provider, we're required to have an emergency transfer plan in place for victims of domestic & dating violence, stalking and sexual assault. Such a plan provides for when a household has to be divided as a result of domestic violence under the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA).

As you can see, the laws provide for us to take a non-blanket, more individualized case-by-case holistic management approach to assure we're providing fair and equitable opportunity and avoiding discrimination. We will be working towards updating all of policies and procedures that guide and govern eligibility and admissions as well as our waiting list preference point system accordingly.



**Need a loan for Home Improvement Repairs?  
Buying a Home and need a Down Payment?**

Bad River Housing Authority has teamed with Wisconsin Native Loan Fund (WNLF) to provide lending capital specifically for lending to Bad River Tribal members for Home Improvement and Down Payment Assistance. Loans limits and terms vary for each loan product. Applications are done direct through WNLF. Visit their website for contact information and application:

[www.winlf.org](http://www.winlf.org)

Wisconsin Native Loan Fund also provides financial education either one-on-one or group workshops, contact their office for more information: 715-588-1600

**Yard Maintenance/Lawn Mowing:** Tenants are responsible for keeping their units and yards clean as noted at the beginning of their signed lease agreement. If grass reaches 12 inches, a notice to cut will be issued. If within 7 days the grass is not cut, BRHA will cut the lawn and bill the tenant \$50.00, payment is due within one month.

**Cars:** All motor vehicles not bearing a valid and current state of Wisconsin Registration, whether they are operable or not will be deemed abandoned and will be disposed of following the Tribal Ordinance Section 124.10. Tenant's will be issued a two week notice to register or dispose. Failure to do so will result in the housing authority disposing and charging for the cost of disposal.

**Garbage** must be properly bagged with a full recycling sticker attached (2 stickers for a 30 gallon bag). Place trash in the appropriate location for pick up each week.

**Ants a problem?** Ants hate peppermint, so a simple deterrent is to buy some peppermints and place them in the corners of your cupboards. They will last for ages and keep the ants away.

**Mice! Yikes!** - Mice also hate peppermint (extract) – Simply sprinkle pure peppermint extract on places or things you want mice to stay away from.

**Repairs or Safety Issues:** Please notify BRHA in writing or by telephone, **promptly** of any and all needed repairs to the dwelling unit, any known or unsafe conditions in the common area and grounds of the project which may lead to damage or injury.

**Visitors:**

- If you are having a guest/visitor for longer than 2 weeks, lease requires you to acquire written consent from BRHA to allow extended accommodations.



## Resident Services

Rae Ann Bender, Housing Manager/Counselor

### Summer Fun Safety Tips

Now that the weather is warm, it's a perfect opportunity to spend time outdoors. While you're having fun, it's important to remember "Safety Comes First".

**Don't leave kids in vehicles:** In ten minutes a car can heat up 20 degrees Fahrenheit. Cracking a window does very little to keep your car cool. A child's body temperature can rise up to five times faster than an adult. A child can die when his/her temperature reaches 107 degrees.

**Sun Protection;** avoid direct sun during peak hours 10am –6pm; wear protective clothing and sunglasses; wear sunscreen, even on cloudy days.



**Stay hydrated;** keeping hydrated is very important, especially for the elderly and children. When working outdoors drink plenty of water and take frequent breaks out of the sun. Severe dehydration can cause heat exhaustion and or heat stroke.

**Heat exhaustion** symptoms include, fatigue, dizziness, nausea, headaches, cold clammy skin and may affect his/her breathing and heart rate.

**Heat stroke** symptoms include, red-hot dry skin from lack of sweat, confusion and or delirium, if you suspect someone has heat stroke, call 911.



**Water safety;** teach children to always tell an adult before swimming. When boating always make sure children wear the proper size life jackets.

**Bike Safety;** Be visible – always wear a helmet and bright colored/reflective clothing. It is also a good idea to add reflective tape to your bike.

## Crime Prevention & Safety—Personal Safety

There is nothing more personal than having one's home, and one's privacy invaded by an unwelcome outsider. Here are some tips to help keep yourself and your home safe.

- Lock doors and windows.
- Use timers for lights; let family, friends, or neighbors, know you will be away.
- Put a temporary stop to newspaper delivery and mail.
- Keep your valuables and jewelry in a safe deposit box.
- Keep a record of serial numbers for your electronics.
- Purchase and maintain renter's insurance.
- Always be aware of your surroundings.
- Notify the management/housing and sheriffs department when you're going to be away for an extended period of time (a few days or longer). Ask them to check the exterior of your unit frequently for signs of entry. Give them a way to contact you in the event of an emergency.



If you observe strangers "milling around" the community aimlessly, looking through windows and/or vehicles, call 911. Often burglars will carry empty backpacks or knapsacks to carry away stolen property. Trust your intuition; if it doesn't look right, it probably isn't.

Remember that YOU are an important partner in the fight against crime.

SUMMER 2016

## Youth Services: Birch Hill Community House

The Birch Hill Community House has begun its summer hours and summer programming!

We will now be open from 9:00 am – 4:00 pm.

Breakfast starting at 9:00 am.

Programming includes gardening, hiking, fishing, swimming, cook outs, lacrosse and educational sessions.

The community house will also be partnering with community members and organizations to teach the youth life skill like budgeting and bike maintenance.

Please like us on Face book and be on the look out for our July Calendar.



Boozhoo, My name is Cleo Johnson. I will be working as the new Birch Hill Community House Assistant for the summer. I was born and raised on the Bad River Reservation. I worked and lived here my whole life. I love working with kids, and am looking forward to working with our youth this summer.

### SUMMER PROGRAMMING

Rod and Reel Fishing

Hiking

Movie Nights

Campfires @ BHCH

Camping

Swimming

Cook outs



If interested in our program

Please contact Brad Bigboy

715-685-0556

## Youth Grants

Bad River Housing Authority is the recipient of two grants focused on working with youth at Birch Hill Community House.

### 1. "Wewenii Anokidaa" - Let's Work Well

This grant is funded through the Notah Begay III foundation. It will focus on two main objectives: an indigenized fitness program/"Rez Gym" and an ancestral diet curriculum. Specialists from the Well for Culture organization will work with BRHA, Bad River language and food/diet specialists, and the youth to develop programming. Look for community activities in the near future.

### 2. Baaga'adowe—Hope Through Tradition

This grant is funded through the Native Youth and Culture Fund. The funding will help to re-establish a Lacrosse program which will include a community kickoff event, mentor training, youth camp, intramural teams, equipment, cultural and historical workshops, Ojibwemonwin, and inter-tribal games. Watch for announcements!

WAAKA'IGAN MAZINA'IGAN

## Maintenance

**Tim Brown, Project Manager**



### BENEFITS OF HAVING AN AIR EXCHANGER

If you have allergies or respiratory problems, you know the importance of fresh outdoor air. Being in an air-tight home or office can cause problems for people with these health issues. Long Wisconsin winters do not make it easier. According to the EPA, homes can be more seriously polluted than even the most industrial cities. With some people spending approximately 90% of their time indoors, they are more susceptible to the effects of indoor air pollution. Proper ventilation with an air exchanger could help.

Air Exchange Ventilator (AEV) Benefits:

- Reduce excess humidity which can cause mold, mildew and deterioration to your home.
- Reduce dangerous pollutant fumes or gases.
- Remove particles like dust and dander.
- Help reduce heating and cooling costs for highly insulated homes.
- Remove “stuffiness” and help freshen up the home.

TIPS: Run your “Air Exchangers”, in the heating season; Air exchangers should be set between 35 -55. Exchangers have a reusable filters that can be submerge in hot soap water and air dry; and if you don't have one use the bath and kitchen fans.



**Have a damp basements?** open a window or get a dehumidifier

**Need deadbolts?** cost through BRHA = \$39.68.

**Annual**

**Inspections** are in full force! Furnace Filters, Smoke and C.O. detector batteries will be replaced and Fire Extinguisher will be checked.

If you need assistance turning on your Air Conditioning call BRHA.

**New emergency maintenance phone # - 715-292-8847**

**Lawn Mower Rental \$5.00 upon pick up. Call & ask for Kyle 715-682-2271**

### *Upcoming Events!*

Date	Time	Event
July 4		Closed for Holiday
July 12	4:30	Housing Board Meeting
July 29		Closed for Treaty Day
August 9	4:30	Housing Board Meeting
September 5		Closed for Labor Day
September 13	4:30	Housing Board Meeting
September 30		Closed for Indian Holiday

**New Xcel “Energy My Account “**

**manage your account make payments— get updates on power outages.**

WAAKA’IGAN MAZINA’IGAN

## Development & Model Activities

### Kinnickinnic Playground Selection

Bad River Housing Authority has held listening sessions to discuss locations and ideas for playgrounds for the KaBoom! Snapple playground grant. The community was given opportunities to vote on the final design for the playground structure; and the design selected is pictured below:



We hope to begin building the playground in Mid-August with all community volunteers. Announcements will be going out soon to those who have already volunteered their services and seeking additional workers. Site plan will also include picnic tables and a gazebo for family events. Point of Contact for this project is Deb Morrissey, Assistant Director at 682-2271, ext 1677.



SUMMER 2016