Section 8 Inspection Checklist

When you receive your inspection appointment notice from the Housing Authority, please take the time to double check the following list in your home.

If you have any repairs that need to be made, please contact your landlord or manager immediately so the repairs can be made before your inspection date.

Please make sure your home is in safe and sanitary condition, any excessive soil is not considered sanitary. Your yard and deck should be free of debris, old appliances, tires and car parts. Vehicles must be parked in designated parking areas, not in the yard. All vehicles must be registered to household members listed on the Lease. Please have any animals/pets restrained and/or contained during the inspection to eliminate any potential hazards.

Your inspector wants the inspection process to be quick and easy for you. You can help by checking the items listed on the back of this notice for possible inspection fail items. By correcting the items listed in this notice before the inspection, you have a good chance of your unit passing the inspection the first time, thereby saving yourself from needing a re-inspection.

Thank you for cooperation and please feel free to keep this list for future reference.

(See Back)
The Most Common Deficiencies
Resulting in a Failed Inspection

Entry Doors: Must lock securely. Check the weather-stripping. If there are gaps that let air in, weather-stripping must be applied. Check the doorjamb and strike plate for defects.

Windows: Those designed to open must open and must have a permanent lock attached. (Sticks and thumbscrews are not accepted as locking devices). The window-panes must not be broken or cracked.

Electrical Hazards: HUD requires that a unit must be free of any possible electrical hazards. All electrical outlets and switches must be secured to the wall. Please make sure there is no exposed wiring in the home and that all fixtures are properly mounted to the wall or ceiling and are working. Breaker boxes must have all open spaces filled with knock outs or blank spacers and must not have any exposed wires.

Oven / Range: Clean the range and oven to ensure that it will not be a fire hazard. Burners must lay flat and all elements must be working properly. Be sure all knobs and dials are on the appliance. Please insure filter screen is installed in front of the fan.

Refrigerator: Check the rubber gasket around the doors. If it’s loose or cracked, it needs to be replaced. Also check the kick plate to ensure it is secured at the bottom of the refrigerator.

Heating and Plumbing: The heating system must be on, working properly, and provide adequate heat. Be sure all heat sources are clear of furniture, bedding, clothing, and other items. Oil, gas and propane furnaces must be professionally serviced every two years. Verification of service must be provided and the furnace must be safe and working properly. Check for any leaks in the plumbing fixtures: sinks, toilets and showers, and repair if necessary.

Hot Water Heater: Must have a pressure relief valve and discharge line that extends to within 6 inches of the floor or outside the unit. Discharge tubing must be of the appropriate type of material—either galvanized steel or copper or CPVC piping (Do not use PVC). There should be no exposed wires. In addition, Flammable material should not be stored near the hot water tank.

Flooring: Carpets that are frayed or torn, or vinyl, tile or linoleum that would be a tripping hazard must be repaired. Exposed carpet tacks or thresholds which are loose must be repaired. Please check and repair floors that have dry rot. Dry rot is commonly found in the bathroom,

Smoke and Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detectors: A smoke and CO detectors must be on each floor of the dwelling unit and must have a tester button. Units occupied by the hearing impaired, must be equipped with a smoke and CO alarm designed for the hearing impaired mounted in the bedroom occupied by the hearing impaired Individual.

Ventilation: Inoperable bathroom fans or no ventilation, i.e. window would result in a fail rating.

Decks, Railings, Steps: HUD requires that all stairways with 4 or more steps must have a handrail. The handrail must run the length of the stairway and be securely supported in order to provide adequate safety for the user. Decks, rails and steps, must also be free of dry rot and tripping hazards. Railings are required for decks porches or steps that are over 30 inches from the ground.

Chipping Paint: HUD requires that a home built prior to 1978 have no chipping, peeling, or cracking paint on the inside and outside of the unit if the unit is occupied with children under the age of six.

Landlords who desire to list their rentals with the Section 8 Office may call (206) 214-1300.