



News from the Office

Fair market rent for a 3 bedroom apartment in Wood County is listed as \$1,036.00 in 2021. Habitat for Humanity of Wood County helps homeowners secure an affordable mortgage such that housing costs do not exceed 30% of household income. This provides the opportunity for decent and affordable housing that many would otherwise be unable to afford.

This year, we are excited to be building two homes in Wayne, one in Bowling Green, and rehabbing a previously built Habitat home in Rossford. Four families are currently going through our Homeownership program, completing their sweat equity hours and on their way to achieving their dream of homeownership.

We have also secured lots for future builds in Grand Rapids, Weston, Wayne and Rossford, and we are continuously looking for opportunities to bring Habitat homes to every city and village in Wood County.

Our hope is for all families in Wood County to have the opportunity for decent and affordable housing. You can change a family's life by sharing about this Homeownership opportunity to those you know who may be in need of decent and affordable housing. Just have them call us at 419-481-8100 to begin the application process.

Our staff includes: Executive Director – Mark Ohashi, Volunteer Coordinator – Jessica Herringshaw, Bookkeeper – Melissa Desmith, Homeowner Services Coordinator – Michael Smith and Construction Manager – Jim Overmyer.

- Mark Ohashi, Executive Director
Habitat for Humanity of Wood County Ohio

May the Spring Cleaning Commence!

Keeping our homes germ and bacteria-free is at the forefront of our minds. The CDC continues to recommend wiping down commonly touched surfaces (i.e., doorknobs, light switches, countertops, tables, etc.). Alongside, regular washing of hands – 20 seconds with warm water and soap – to help decrease our chances of contracting the Coronavirus. Though it is essential to maintain a level of cleanliness throughout the year. With Spring upon us, the vigor of cleaning up our homes and storing away all the winter gear in preparation for warmer weather brings a mix of excitement and dread.

Below is an all-purpose cleaner that is made with only two ingredients: vinegar and water.

Note! If you have granite or marble, this cleaning solution can dull or etch it.

To make the cleaning solution:

- Find any old spray bottle that is lying around.
- Mix one part White Vinegar with one part warm water
 - o 1 gallon bottle of white vinegar can be purchased at Walmart for about \$2.64
- Optional: Adding orange peels to the mixture of vinegar and water can help dilute the smell of the vinegar. However, this does shorten the shelf life of this product, with the addition of orange peels you can expect this solution to last about two weeks
- Pro Tip: Instead of using expensive paper towels, just dig up a clean sock and put in on your hand and wipe over commonly touched areas. There will be a vinegar smell, but it should disappear after about an hour.



Kellogg, Katherine: <https://www.goingzerowaste.com/blog/zero-waste-all-purpose-cleaner>

Some Notes on Upcycling Some Commonly Thrown Away Items

Cleaning and decluttering are all fantastic things to do to help maintain a home. However, have you ever thought about the items that you may be interested in throwing away or donated could serve you differently. Attached are two ideas of commonly thrown or donated items that could be upcycled to save you time, money and help the planet.

1. Old T-shirts? There are multitudes of ways to upcycle T-shirts that are stained or no longer fit. Cut them up into cleaning rags.

2. Mason Jars have stayed steady in their popularity for drinking, preserving, and eating from. But if buying a whole case of mason jars is out of the budget. Think about keeping the glass jars that are included when you purchase sauces. To remove the label, just fill the glass jar with hot water, leave for 20 minutes. The label should peel right off. These jars could be used for drinking glasses, food storage, or to grow houseplants, the possibilities are endless.
 - a. If you decided that this is not for you, please make sure the jar is intact before recycling. Broken glass does not recycle



SPRING CROSSWORD:

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

Spring has sprung!!! The Crossword puzzle has words all about spring.

How many can you find?

Spring
 Puddles
 Butterfly
 Flowers
 Egg
 Rainbow
 Rain
 Sun
 Raincoat
 Picnic

Haiku:

A haiku is a type of poetry from Japan! Consisting of 17 Syllables divided into three sentences of 5, 7, and 5. Using the words above can you make a haiku about Spring?

5:

7:

5:

Dinner, Done in 30!

With the weather warming up, it is still cold enough to indulge in warm, flavourful dishes to enjoy while discussing the day's events with loved ones. Skillet Pesto Chicken and Beans is a delightful mix of winter comfort with the hint of Spring.

Ingredients:

- 8 small chicken thighs (about 2 pounds)
- Kosher salt and pepper
- 1 tablespoon Olive oil
- 8 oz. green beans
- 1 c. cherry tomatoes
- 1, 15-ounce can butter beans, rinsed
- 2 tablespoons of prepared pesto (purchase premade at the store to save time)
- Grated parmesan and chopped basil for serving



Directions:

1. Heat oven to 425°F. Season chicken thighs with 1/2 teaspoon each salt and pepper. Heat oil in a large, oven-safe skillet on medium-high. Add chicken, skin side down, and cook until golden brown, about 6 minutes.
2. Turn chicken over; add green beans, cherry tomatoes, butter beans, and season with 1/4 teaspoon salt. Roast until chicken is cooked through, 12 to 15 minutes.
3. Brush pesto over chicken and serve with grated parmesan and chopped basil.

NUTRITIONAL INFORMATION (per serving): About 450 calories, 26 g fat (6.5 g saturated), 38 g protein, 770 mg sodium, 22 g carbohydrates, 6 g fiber.

Recipe & picture acquired from Goodhousekeeping.com. For additional recopies and tips, visit them at www.goodhousekeeping.com/food-recipes.

Please let us know what you would like to see in the next homeowner newsletter. Ideas can be submitted to msmith@wchabitat.org

- Carys Murphy, Homeowner Newsletter Editor