

VANDALIA HOUSING AUTHORITY

DECEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



• INGREDIENTS

- 4 egg whites
- 1/4 tsp. cream of tartar
- 1/4 tsp. kosher salt
- 1 cup (200 g.) granulated sugar
- 1/2 tsp. peppermint extract
- Red gel food coloring
- 1 cup (155 g.) semi-sweet chocolate chips
- 5 small peppermint canes or candies (70 g.)

• DIRECTIONS

- Preheat oven to 200°. Line two sheet pans with parchment paper.
- In bowl of a stand mixer fitted with a whisk attachment, combine egg whites, cream of tartar, and salt. Beat on medium speed until whites are foamy and soft peaks form, about 1 minute. With mixer running, slowly add sugar 1 tablespoon at a time, then increase speed to high and beat until meringue is thick, marshmallow-like, and holds firm peaks, 4 to 6 minutes. Beat in peppermint extract.
- Fit a large disposable piping bag with a large tip and fold top back to create a cuff. Using a small paint brush, paint a few thin vertical stripes of red food coloring inside bag. Rest bag in an empty drinking glass to prop it up, then use a rubber spatula to scrape meringue into piping bag. Fold back top of bag and twist top to seal.
- Pipe 2" cookies on prepared sheet pans, leaving 1" between cookies. Bake until cookies are very crisp and hard to touch, 1½ to 2 hours. Turn off oven and let cookies sit in oven until it is completely cool, about 2 hours.
- Place peppermints in bowl of a mini food processor. Pulse until candy is broken up into fine pieces. (Alternatively, place them in a small Ziplock bag and crush with a meat mallet or rolling pin.) Transfer to a small bowl. In a small microwave-safe bowl, microwave chocolate chips in 30-second intervals, stirring between each, until melted and smooth.
- Working with one cookie at a time, dip bottom of meringue in chocolate and let excess drip off. Sprinkle some crushed peppermints over chocolate and return immediately back to baking sheet. Repeat with remaining cookies, then refrigerate until chocolate is set, 15 to 20 minutes. Store in an airtight container.



DIRECTORS NOTES

***Many tenants are not checking their memo boxes, as a result missing important dates and information that could result in lease violations and or terminations. We have begun using a texting option you can use this texting line to submit work orders or other concerns to communicate with the Housing Authority office staff.**

Text line is 833-944-5919

***Please note per your lease, if children are outside for any reason they MUST be accompanied by an adult.**

REMINDERS

- **DECEMBER 1, 2025** Pest Control Inspection
- **DECEMBER 29, 2025** Pest Control Inspection
- **DECEMBER 3, 2025** Housing Authority office will open at 1:30pm
- **DECEMBER 12, 2025** Housing Authority office will close at 12:00pm for the day.
- **DECEMBER 24, 2025-DECEMBER 26, 2025** Housing Authority office will be closed in observance of Christmas.
- **When you receive your updated 2026 Social Security benefit letter please bring in to office.**
- **All Tenant rents must be paid in full by December 19th, 2025 to close out the year**

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) may be able to help you pay your home energy bills through:

- Energy Assistance - A one-time payment for one fuel type for your heating or cooling costs from October-May.
- Energy Crisis Intervention Program (ECIP) - Helps pay your energy bill when you have a termination or disconnect notice indicating a specific disconnect date, a final billing statement advising the account has been terminated, a propane-fuel oil tank is filled at less than 20% capacity, the customer is a cash on delivery (COD) customer, pre-paid electric customer indicates their pre-paid usage is about to run out, or when an applicant indicates another fuel source is about to run out (Wood, corn pellets, kerosene). The amount of help you receive is based on the amount of bill with the energy provider.
 - Winter ECIP is available November—May based on funding. The maximum amount you could get is \$800.
 - Summer ECIP is available June—September based on funding. The maximum amount you could get is \$300.

Who is eligible?

You may be eligible for help if you:

- Are responsible for paying the utilities for your home (including if you rent)
- Are a Missouri resident
- Are a United States citizen (or have been legally admitted for permanent residence)
- Have \$3,000 or less in your bank accounts, retirement accounts, or investments
- Meet or are below the [income guidelines](#) for your household size.

How do I apply?

1. Complete the application and gather the required documents ([you can pick up an application at Housing Authority office](#))
2. Submit your application and required documents to your [Contracted Agency](#) by mail, fax, or in person

Check out our website: www.bgvha.org

Housing Authority will be cashless starting January 1, 2026. You can pay via Credit/Debit card, Money Order, Cashiers Check, or personal Check, ACH(Automatic from checking account)



Christmas Word Scramble

EHESPRHD	_____	LDUHRPO	_____
LNGEA	_____	YRSFTO	_____
ENSRTOANM	_____	ECIOKO	_____
RSMHCIATS	_____	VLESE	_____
NADYC ANEC	_____	STMEOELTI	_____
TRAS	_____	IEDERENR	_____
LACRO	_____	TASAN	_____
NTUESTCH	_____	LOLYJ	_____
WSNO NMA	_____	UPNDGDI	_____
AMGRNE	_____	GERBNIDREGA	_____
SNTCIGOK	_____	DYLIAOH	_____
SJUSE	_____	FTGIS	_____
GSHLIE	_____	CFEURTIK	_____
HRAWTE	_____	ETRE	_____



