

RUSSELL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT



TENANT HANDBOOK[®]

HOW TO LIVE IN AND CARE FOR THE HOME YOU ARE RENTING

KEEP IN A SAFE PLACE FOR REFERENCE

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OUR PERSONAL MESSAGE TO YOU

Congratulations on the selection of your new home. Welcome to the Tampa Bay area and to your new association with Russell Property Management (RPG). Our Corporate office is located at:

696 1st Ave N Suite 205
St. Petersburg, FL 33701
Office 727-323-4400

We want to make your association with our firm a pleasant experience and hope you will look to us for all your RENTAL and REAL ESTATE needs.

If you have a home in another part of the USA, we may be able to locate a Property Manager for you through our association with the National Association of Residential Property Managers (NARPM). NARPM is a large association of professional Residential Property Managers, who subscribe to a high standard of service. If we can help you locate a Property Manager for your home, please let us know.

Should you decide to purchase a home, call the office and we will locate a Realtor® within our Company who is knowledgeable in the area and price range you desire. The home you are renting may also be available to purchase. Please contact this office for more information about the home you are renting.

As Professional Property Managers, we have obligations to both you, as the resident tenant, and to the Owner of the home. This Handbook outlines our responsibilities to you and your responsibilities to us and to the home. Please read each paragraph carefully. A good relationship is possible when both parties understand and fulfill each of their responsibilities and obligations.

Clear communication is the key to a successful Landlord/Tenant relationship. We are always ready to answer questions or to discuss problems.

The Staff and Management of
Russell Property Group



GENERAL RULES & REGULATION

The Property - You have leased a condo or a home . . . think of it as your own. During the term of this lease, you are in possession of the house and yard. Your obligations are similar to those of the Owner, and you are expected to care for and maintain the premises accordingly.

Rental Payments - *All rents are due and payable, in advance, on the first day of each month.* Monthly bills will not be sent. Payment should be in a check, money order or certified funds and made payable to:

Russell Property Group
PO Box 1484
St. Petersburg, FL 33731
727-323-4400

Please mail or deliver your payment to the above address. WRITE YOUR ADDRESS on your payment to assure proper credit. All accounting is done by address of the property. Also, to avoid any misunderstanding, please put your address on every correspondence with the office.

You may pay in person, Monday through Friday, 10:00am to 4:00pm, at our physical address located on the first page of this hand book. We do not accept post-dated checks or CASH. Rents remaining unpaid on the 5th day of the month are delinquent and are subject to a late fee. Rents remaining unpaid after the 5th day may be offered for collection and will be subject to all collection charges and fees incurred.

Phone Number - All residents are required to have telephone accessibility and to provide RPG with their home and work phone numbers. Please be sure to notify RPG when you change home or work numbers. Even unlisted numbers must be provided to RPG. You should include your home and work numbers with your first rental payment after you move in.

Returned Checks - The amount of any bad checks, plus the returned check charge allowed by law must be paid in either certified funds or a money order within 24 hours of notification; otherwise legal action may be taken. After a check is returned to us for insufficient funds, you will be required to pay either with a money order or certified funds. If the returned check makes your rent payment late, a late fee will also be due. All amounts due must be paid in full at time of notification.

Default of Rental Payment- *If the rent is not paid by the 5th of the month, and you receive a 3-DAY notice, your lease is in jeopardy and may be canceled and a demand may be made for all monies due.* You will be responsible for all magistrates' fees, court costs, and legal and collection fees incurred by efforts to collect the rent due. All charges unpaid by the end of the month in which they are charged may be added as additional rent. All remedies and charges for collecting unpaid rent may be used to collect unpaid charges. If rent is paid while a legal action is in process, acceptance of rent will not necessarily stop the legal action. A separate agreement must be reached if legal action is to be stopped.

Sixty Days Written Notice - a sixty-day (60) written notice must be given to RPG before vacating the premises. THE WRITTEN NOTICE IS REQUIRED EVEN IF YOU INTEND TO VACATE AT THE END OF THE LEASE. The notice should state a definite moving date. The lease stipulates the forfeiture of the entire security deposit if a minimum 30-day notice is not given. (This does not apply to the military clause)

Breaking Your Lease - The forfeiture of the deposit as a penalty for premature cancellation of the tenancy does not excuse you from other obligations of your lease. You must leave the premises clean, undamaged and ready for occupancy. Check-in and checkout inspections are required.

Keys And Locks - Alterations or replacement of locks, installation of bolts, knockers, mirrors or other attachments to the interior or exterior of doors requires the written approval of RPG. RPG must have keys to each lock on the house. RPG may gain access and re-key if at any time access is denied, and charge the cost to the Tenant. Copies of the new keys will be available at the office during posted office hours. All keys are to be returned to RPG upon vacating the premises. If you are locked out of your home, you may come to the office and borrow a key from us Monday through Friday 10:00am to 4:00pm. There will be a charge of \$35 for any borrowed key that is not returned within 24 hours. If Property Manager has to come to you during normal business hours there will be a \$50 Trip Charge. After business hours you will need to call a lock smith and pay the lock smith for his service to unlock your door.

Trash, Garbage and Recycling - All garbage, trash and recyclable materials must be placed in appropriate containers, (RPG does not provide these). All containers are to be discreetly stored. The Tenant is required to make arrangements to have garbage and trash picked up no less than weekly. Containers are not to be out of the storage area except on pick up days. Any recycling items collected must be properly contained and discreetly stored. A total of no more than two 50-gallon trash bags of recyclable materials may be kept on the premises at one time.

Disturbances, Noise and Nuisance - All Tenants, residents and guests are expected to conduct themselves in a way that will not offend or disturb the neighbors or passersby. Any activity that causes extreme or excessive noise, traffic or disturbance of any kind is cause for eviction. This includes loud, lewd music, or vulgar or profane language. If music or other sound can be heard outside the perimeter of the premises leased, it is considered too loud. No outdoor speakers or electronics to be allowed on porches, balconies or other outside areas.

Move-In/Move-Out Condition Report - A Property Condition Report along with a video and pictures will be taken immediately prior to move in. If requested RPG can provide a copy of this form so that you can see what the Property Manager noted as the condition of the premises and lists all defective items which will be saved along with the video of the property. This same report along with the video will be used for the move-out condition comparison after vacating the premises. If you do not contact the Property Manager within 5 days of move-in to add any defects to the report, the property will be assumed to be in acceptable condition and any defects brought to our attention after this date will be considered your responsibility. No exceptions will be made.

Periodic Surveys - As part of our agreement with the Owner of the property, RPG will conduct routine surveys of the condition of the property. You will be notified of any problems, and given 7 days to remedy them. Any breach not corrected will be addressed as per the Florida Landlord Tenant Act.

Parking/Vehicles - All vehicles shall be parked in assigned/reserved areas or may be subject to towing (garages, parking lots, driveways, parking pads, etc.) or on the public street where allowed. You are not allowed to park on lawns, sidewalks and other areas not specifically designated for parking. **All vehicles must be registered, licensed and operable at all times.** No vehicle repair (except minor repairs e.g. changing a tire) is allowed at anytime. No oil/fluid stains are allowed on the garage floor, driveway, walkways or any other area on the property. If your vehicle leaks fluids, place a protective covering or pan under the vehicle to catch the leaks.

Guests - Any person or persons staying more than 72 hours in a three-month period will be considered Tenants, unless prior written permission is obtained from RPG. Only those persons listed on your rental application have permission to occupy the premises. You will be responsible for the behavior of your guests. All portions of this agreement also apply to your guests.

Emergency Maintenance/Repairs - An emergency exists when danger is present or property damage has occurred or is about to occur. Do not abuse the emergency system with other types of calls. To report an emergency, call or text the maintenance line at 727-420-7822. Be sure to report the specific emergency and include your telephone number in your message. See Emergency/Disaster Procedures for more information. **If the emergency involves a fire, flood or blood or similar emergency, please notify the proper authorities at 911 before texting or calling our voicemail!!**

Insurance - It is highly recommended that you have tenants' insurance. A copy of your declarations page is to be given to management the first month you move in. Please notify your insurance company that Russell Property Management is your landlord and must be notified of any change.

Pets - No pets, animals, snakes birds, or exotic pets of any kind are allowed on the premises unless you have written permission and have paid a pet application fee. If permission is given, you will be required to pay a nonrefundable pet fee. This is for the privilege of having a pet, not for pet damage. You will be charged for spraying for fleas, carpet cleaning and/or repair of any damage caused by the pet. You are responsible for your animal at ALL times. Having a pet is a privilege and permission to have the pet on the premises may be revoked at any time without terminating your lease agreement.

WHEN YOU FIRST MOVE IN

Get to Know Your Property - When you first move-in, locate the breaker box and note the ground fault circuit breaker (some of these are located by the sinks and not at the breaker box), where the stove, hot water heater and air conditioner breakers are. Also locate the water shut off for the house. It usually is in the front yard near the house, often close to a front spigot. If the shut off has been covered over, contact RPG so it can be properly marked. Also locate the water shut off for the hot water heater and for under the sinks. Locating these items now may eliminate damage later. See page 6 for more information about circuit breakers.

Put this Handbook Where You Can Find it - Keeping it near the phone book works for most people or in a kitchen drawer. Before calling RPG, see if the answer to your question is in this handbook. We love hearing from our Tenants, but need to keep our time free for emergencies and urgent matters.

IN AND AROUND THE HOUSE

Low Lying Homes - We live in a warm, moist climate. It is important to keep the vents on the crawl space open, especially in wet weather. Closed vents may cause excessive damage to floor joists and other areas underneath a house. Watch for puddles of water that do not go away around the perimeter of the house. This is often a sign of a water problem underneath. For slab homes, be careful that grass, dirt, flowerbeds or other coverings do not grow up over the level of the slab. Keep the perimeter of the house clear of all matter. Stack wood away from the exterior walls and off any wooden deck or flooring. Report to RPG any suspected water problems.

Heat/AC Units - All heat/AC filters need to be changed once a month and batteries for smoke detectors should be changed at least twice a year. A good rule of thumb is to change your filter and test your battery each month when you pay your electric bill, and to change the battery in your smoke detector each year when the time changes.

Many homes have heat pumps for heating and air conditioning. The air coming from the vents will not be hot in the winter or cold in the summer. Heat pumps are designed for the temperature to be set and then to **leave the control alone**. The air runs over the heating or cooling element, then gradually warms or cools to the desired temperature.

When the heat index is high, additional steps can be taken to lower the inside temperature. Close the window coverings, keep the doors closed, do not run hot appliances (oven, etc.) and take all other precautions given by public authorities. Do not set the thermostat at a low temperature when the outside temperature is over 95 degrees. Poor cooling may also be due to a clogged filter. Check and change the filters monthly.

If water drips from the inside unit, it is usually due to a clogged condensation drain line. Some drains are easy to clean with a vacuum cleaner. If the line becomes clogged, turn off the unit and clear the drain line. If you do not know how, call a heat/AC repair company to get instructions.

Circuit Breakers - Circuit breakers move slightly when triggered. It may appear to be ON when it has "tripped". To reset, turn the breaker in the OFF position, then back ON again. The ground fault circuit (GFI) breaker detects even slight voltage changes and cuts the power during fluctuations. They are usually used for bathrooms, sink, exterior plugs, garages and some lights. If you lose power to a plug near a water source, it is usually the GFI circuit. Most GFI's located at the breaker box are marked with a red or yellow button. Many homes have the GFI at the plug in outlet. When these "trip", simply reset the breaker as outlined above, or per the instructions on the outlet cover.

Extermination - Please report any pest problem within three (3) days of possession. If not reported in writing, it is agreed that the premises have no infestation of any kind. Any future infestation of any kind, less termites, shall be your responsibility. You are responsible for reporting any suspected or known termite infestation. You are not responsible for termite control. RPG assumes no responsibility for the control of roaches, mice, ants, fleas or other pests. You will be charged for any damage caused by uncontrolled pests (e.g. ants building nests in the air conditioning unit and damaging the unit.)

Changing Paint, Wallpaper, Etc. - If you want to change the house in any way, please put your proposal in writing and submit it to RPG along with a sample of the paint/wallpaper or drawing (e.g. fence). If approved, you will receive a written confirmation. All tasks must be done in a workmanlike manner, and must be inspected and approved by RPG after completion. Any reimbursements agreed to will occur after approval.

Maintenance, Damage And Repair - You are expected to maintain the home and keep it in as good a condition as when you took possession. Only repairs in excess of \$100.00 required because of normal wear and tear will be made by RPG. You will be charged for repairs caused by misuse or neglect.

Maintenance Requests - We request that all items reported be done through our web page at **RussellPropertyManagement.com** click the tenant tab. Complete the form and submit. Please be thorough in describing the repair as it will help to determine priority. If it is due to tenant negligence, you may be responsible for the repair. See items below for additional information concerning maintenance. If you are not contacted by a repair person within 48 hours (not including weekends or holidays) after reporting a problem, please notify RPG so the call can be reassigned.

Who Does What: All “breakdowns,” system failures and structural defects must be reported to RPG immediately. If an urgent repair is needed (i.e. hot water heater leaking) *YOU are responsible for stopping further damage from occurring*, if possible. If there is a leak, stop the water source immediately. If the problem is electrical, turn off the breaker serving that appliance or area until the repairman arrives. RPG will make any necessary repairs within a reasonable time. You will not be reimbursed for any unauthorized repairs you make.

Some examples of maintenance you are expected to do at your own expense:

- Replace light bulbs
- Torn or damaged screens
- Replace heat/ac filters EVERY MONTH
- Relight gas furnace or hot water heaters
- Replace water filter in refrigerator
- Treat for fire ants and other lawn pests
- Keep flower beds weeded and edged and add fresh bedding once a year
- Replace batteries in smoke detectors (notify RPG if detector doesn't work)
- Tighten loose screws on doors or cabinets
- Use garbage disposal correctly (see instructions in this handbook)

Examples of repairs management will make at no expense to you:

- Repairs to heat/AC systems from normal use
- Replace heating units for hot water tanks from normal use
- Repair leaks in roof
- Replace or repair any part of plumbing which fails from normal use
- Remove broken electrical components
- Repair/paint rotted wood from normal use
- Treat for termites
- Repair windows from normal use

Examples of repairs for which you will be held responsible:

- Replace heating elements/hot water tanks if caused by empty tank.
- Repairing burst water pipes when caused by freezing weather.
- Any unusual damage or extraordinary wear on any of the floors, walls, ceilings, caused by pets, animals, children, guests, smoking or any unusual or unreasonable use
- Damage to windows, doors, screens, fences, outside walls, shrubbery, trees or plantings
- If cigarette smoke damage or smell is caused by tenant, costs of eradicating the smell and having to replace carpet and paint

Unauthorized Repairs - Please do not make any repairs or authorize any maintenance without written permission from RPG. We must authorize all repairs. Except as provided in the FL Tenant/Landlord Act, rent cannot be withheld because of needed repairs nor can the cost of needed repairs be deducted from the rent.

Lawns and Grounds - You are expected to care for the lawn and grounds, keeping them in as good condition as when you took possession. This care includes regularly cutting the grass; fertilizing the lawn; trimming shrubs; edging all walkways; curbs and driveways; treating fire ant beds; regularly watering the yard, removing all debris and pine needles and keeping vines from growing onto the house. Please keep shrub and tree growth away from the roof, eaves, and sides of the house. You are required to report any condition that can cause damage, permanent or temporary, to the grounds and to treat for lawn pests. Flowering trees must be pruned at the proper time of the year for their species and all flowerbeds must be kept free of weeds, grass, etc. Whatever is in the beds as a cover (pine straw, pine bark, etc.) must be maintained by the Tenant. Do not leave hoses connected to exterior faucets with the water turned on.

Light Bulbs - At move-in, all light fixtures will be equipped with the proper light bulbs. All burned out light bulbs are to be replaced during the Tenant's occupancy (including floodlights). Upon moving out, all lights must be equipped with the proper number and kind of bulbs. For decorative bulbs, all must match. Light bulbs must be 60 watts or new energy efficient unless otherwise specified on the lighting fixture.

Plumbing/Septic Systems - You are responsible for keeping all sinks, lavatories and commodes open. Please do not allow anyone to throw anything into the plumbing system or to use it for any purpose other than for what it is designed.

You will be responsible for any damage or stoppage after five (5) days of occupancy unless it was caused by mechanical failure of the plumbing system.

Waterbeds - You must provide proof of flotation bed insurance at time of lease signing as required by Florida Landlord Tenant Act. You will be fully responsible for ANY damage caused by a waterbed.

Walls and Ceilings - Please keep the walls of the home clean and unmarred. Do not paint or wallpaper the walls without *prior approval* of RPG. You are welcome to hang pictures on the walls as long as the walls are clean and unmarred when you move out. All walls, baseboards and trim must be washed before vacating. All ceilings must be dusted/vacuumed regularly and before vacating. **IF YOU ARE A SMOKER, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL SMOKE RESIDUE AND DAMAGE.** An additional deposit may be required for smoking on the premises.

Vinyl Floor Coverings/Hardwood Floors - With normal household use, vinyl and hardwood floors may be washed with a solution of warm water and soap. A thorough cleaning is necessary three or four times a year. Do not use gas, benzene, naphtha, turpentine or waxes containing these solvents. Rubber heel marks can easily be removed with the proper product. Do not apply varnish, lacquer or shellac to the floor. When waxing, use a water-emulsion, self-polishing types of wax such as Johnson's Vinyl Wax for vinyl and Johnson's Paste Wax for hardwood floors. Do not use any solvent-based waxes. You will be responsible for damage done by using improper cleaning materials. (You are also responsible for damage to flooring such as broken tiles or torn floor covering or improper cleaning procedures.)

Carpet Care - Routine carpet care requires a thorough vacuuming at least once a week to remove the soil from the carpet and to keep the pile erect. Heavy traffic areas require more frequent vacuuming to eliminate the coarse particles that can act as an abrasive on the fiber. You must have a motor driven brush-and-beater type vacuum cleaner if the home you rent has carpet. Shampooing is usually required about once a year and is your responsibility. Before moving in, the carpets are professionally cleaned and you must have them professionally cleaned and deodorized upon vacating. A copy of the cleaning company's bill is required at the time of checkout.

Floor/Wall Tile & Grout - Routine tile and grout care requires steaming of at least once a month to remove soil. These areas have been professionally cleaned and you must have them professionally cleaned and deodorized upon vacating. A copy of the cleaning company's bill is required at the time of move out.

Stoves - If the oven or broiler will not operate, check the timer on the stove. Generally the knob will pop out if the timer is off. Turn the knob until it pops out. Instructions for other types are on the face of the stove. Be careful when cleaning the oven that oven cleaner does not drip onto the cabinets below or onto the floor. Do not use oven cleaner on self-cleaning or continuous cleaning ovens. You will be charged for damage to an appliance caused by improper use or cleaning, or by lack of maintenance. Please check with property management in case there is a warranty still in place.

Dishwashers - Use at least once a week. Seals may dry and the motor may be damaged by long periods of not being run. Clean the door and check the bottom of the dishwasher each use for items that may fall from the racks. Check the perimeter of the door for food items falling from the counter. If mildew should grow due to lack of use, you will be responsible for the cleaning or replacing of damage.

Garbage Disposals - Garbage disposals are not for bones, greasy items, meat or any other similar materials. If the motor buzzes, turn the switch off. Un-jam the disposal by turning the blade backwards with a wrench that if not in the unit can be bought at your local hardware. Reset the circuit breaker on the bottom or the side of the disposal (this is usually a small red or yellow button). If the unit turns easily by hand but not with power, call for service. Almost all disposal jams are from what is put into them or misuse.

Washer/Dryer Hookups - When you install your washer and dryer, it is a good time to check your hoses and washers to eliminate leaks. If you are going to be absent from the property for an extended period of time, turn off the hot and cold water supply. Check the wall and floor monthly for evidence of a hidden leak.

Cleaning and Other Information - We work hard to deliver to you a clean, well-maintained and comfortable home with all the mechanical equipment operating properly. Proper cleaning and maintenance will keep the home and its equipment safe and usable for you. The key to proper cleaning is to do it often. Set up a weekly schedule. Monitor the work and ensure that cleaning is performed as often as needed. A properly maintained home is a team effort involving the Owner who keeps structural and mechanical maintenance up-to-date; the Property Manager who keeps a record of

necessary maintenance and places responsible people in the property; and the Tenant who keeps the property clean, performs cosmetic maintenance and promptly reports any structural or mechanical failure to Management.

Minimum Cleaning Standards

1. Keep windows and storm doors clean, inside and outside; interior cleaning at least once a month, exterior cleaning every six months. Wash between windows and screens quarterly.
2. Wash interior doors, doorways and walls in heavily traveled areas every 1 - 2 months.
3. Clean dust, dirt and debris from the upper and lower sliding glass door tracks monthly.
4. Clean stove, drip pans, under drip pans, oven racks and drawer, broiler pan, hood, filter and vent biweekly.
5. Mop and wax vinyl floors biweekly.
6. Dust baseboards, windowsills, window grids, tops of windows, ceiling fans, doors, ceilings and corners of the room monthly.
7. Clean AC/Heat air return grate and change filter each month. (TIP: When you pay your light bill, change your filter)
8. Clean and sweep out fireplace. Clean fireplace grate, screen and glass.
9. Replace burned-out light bulbs as needed, clean lighting fixtures as needed.
10. Curtains and blinds, if provided, should be cleaned or washed semiannually.
11. Bathrooms should be cleaned weekly. This includes toilet bowls and base, sink, mirror, floor, bathtub and shower (including walls). Wipe out medicine cabinet, drawers and cabinets. Keep all drains cleared from hair and debris.
12. Caulk tub as necessary.
13. Sweep out garage as needed.

Counter tops and Cabinets - Always use cutting boards and hot pads when chopping, cutting or placing hot items on counter tops. Do not use abrasive cleaners on counter tops, as they will scratch. All unpainted cabinets need to be cleaned regularly with a wood cleaner (such as Murphy's Oil Soap) and treated with a wood preserver (such as Scott's Liquid Gold). All cabinets must be vacuumed out and the drawer/door fronts cleaned as above before vacating.

Kitchen Appliances - Each kitchen appliance must be cleaned regularly. In particular, the stove hoods, the filter in the stove hood, the oven, under the burners on the stove and the drip pans. The refrigerator water filter is to be maintained and/or replaced by tenant. Please do not put aluminum foil on the stove drip pans. Please clean under the refrigerator, washer, and dryer regularly. Not cleaning all these items regularly can cause excessive wear and tear, for which you will be responsible.

Fireplaces - If there is a fireplace in your home, please do not burn pine or any other "sappy" wood. This causes a buildup of residue in the chimney and increases the possibility of fire. The fireplace is not a place to burn cardboard, Holiday wrappings, pine needles, etc. Chimneys should be professionally cleaned every two years.

MOVING OUT

Put It In Writing - Before notice to vacate is accepted by RPG, it MUST be put in writing. The notice must include the date you anticipate having the property ready for your move-out walk through and video and where you are moving to (even if you don't have a forwarding address, list the city and state where you will be relocating) Notice must be received by RPG *one full calendar month* before you move out.

Marketing During the Notice Period - After you have given notice that you intend to move, the property may be listed for sale or rent. The most probable showing hours are between 9:00am and 6:00pm. The property must be available and in good condition during the market time. Illness and children's birthday parties are acceptable reasons for rescheduling a showing. Inconvenience, out of town guests, and no one home are not acceptable reasons to reschedule. You will be called prior to showing. If there is no answer or no answering system, the call is still considered notice. If permission is given, we will call your work number. A call to your place of residence is the usual and customary practice in the St. Petersburg/Tampa Bay area, and is considered notice. Extra effort on your part is expected in keeping the house and yard neat and clean during marketing. Minimum showing condition:

1. All beds made and rooms neat
2. Floors are recently vacuumed; clutter free, especially no piles of dirty clothes.
3. Kitchen and baths are clean, sinks are clean and empty

4. Walls are clean and unmarred
5. Dogs are out of the way, litter boxes are clean and odor free
6. TV is off or volume turned low so as not to be intrusive
7. Yard is mowed, trimmed and in good condition
8. Blinds/curtains are open and home is well lit (when possible)

The better a home shows, the more likely it will rent or sell quickly. The faster a new resident is found, the less you will be bothered by showings. A home that shows well benefits everyone!

The Move-Out/Check Out Condition Survey Report - The Move out inspection will be done by your Property Manager within 2 days after you have completely vacated the home. You are requested not to be present. The Property Manager's report is final.

1. Survey's are made from 9:30am-5:00pm Monday through Friday. Please do not plan on an inspection to be made on weekends or holidays. The inspection takes from 30 minutes to 1 hour, depending on the size of the house.
2. Please arrange for your utility turn off to allow for electric and water to be on for 3 working days after you vacate the property. If this is not done you will be charged the turn on /off fee from your security deposit.
3. Surveys are made only after you have completely vacated the premise, the premises are cleaned, carpets are professionally cleaned and dry (receipt required, chemical dry cleaning is unacceptable), the yard is mowed and edged, all trash hauled off, shrubs trimmed, flowerbeds have fresh bedding, and you are ready to turn over the keys.
4. A room-by-room check will be made, including interior, exterior, grounds, appliances, windows, curtains, blinds, etc.
5. Appendix D provides some of the cleaning guidelines. Upon receipt of your written notice to vacate, another copy will be sent to you. Most Tenants who use the guidelines pass the survey on the first appointment.

Breaking Lease - Breaking your lease is a serious matter and all options have consequences. Should you need to terminate your lease prior to the termination date contained in your lease or any signed extension thereto, the following is a list of the most common but not all charges:

1. A re-leasing and/or breaking lease fee. (minimum one month's rent)
2. Additional **Buy out** Fee to avoid credit reporting**
3. Rent until the new lease takes effect.
4. Lawn maintenance (you need to arrange for that before leaving).
5. Utilities (keep them on in your name until notified of a new Tenant).
6. Advertising and any other costs incurred in securing a new Tenant

*****Buy Out: To buy out the remaining term of obligations to your current lease you must pay certified funds in the amount of a minimum two full month's rent. This fee is in addition to other possible charges above and does not include your security deposit. Upon payment of your buy out, we will satisfy all terms of your lease and release you from further obligations to the owner or RPG. No negative reporting will be made to any credit bureau and/or rental history reporting agency. Your rental account with RPG will be closed in "good standing."***

We work diligently to reduce your costs should you break your lease. If you find you have to move before the end of your lease, we will market the property promptly. You must pay a full month's rent for every month until a new Tenant is secured. When the new Tenant moves in, your obligations cease. Forfeiture of your security deposit does not excuse you from other obligations of the lease. You must follow all procedures for marketing, cleaning and move out:

Return of The Security Deposit - THE SECURITY DEPOSIT MAY NOT BE USED AS THE LAST MONTH'S RENT!!!! The security deposit will be refunded within 15 days of your final move-out survey if no claim is being made against it. If a claim is being made, it will be sent by certified mail within 30 days of your vacating the unit.

The following are the requirements for a full refund;

1. Have given thirty (30) days written notice prior to vacating.
2. Have left the premises clean and undamaged and followed the check out procedures.
3. Have left all walls clean and unmarred. (Homes are NOT always painted between each Tenant),
4. Have paid all charges and rents due.
5. Have removed all debris, rubbish, and discarded all items from the premises.
6. Have provided a forwarding street address and a telephone number. No P.O. Boxes are accepted as a forwarding address.
7. Have an acceptable move-out/check-out condition survey report by the Property Manager or Inspector.

EMERGENCY/DISASTER PROCEDURES

Appendices A, B, and C - These are the procedures, plans and responsibilities for emergency/disaster related situations. Please read each of them carefully and regularly review them, especially during the summer months. Since a Hurricane is the natural disaster most likely to happen in our area, special emphasis has been placed on hurricane preparedness. Please be aware, earthquakes are also a possibility.

Make Your Plan Now - The key to safely and properly handling any emergency/disaster is pre-planning and staying calm during and after the event. Being prepared is every individual's responsibility. Don't rely only on the authorities. Take charge and plan now so you can be better prepared to take action when the time comes. Advanced planning allows for fewer mistakes and greater safety for you, your family, and the home you are caring for. It is easy to forget even little things in the anxiety, which often comes with an emergency. To avoid unnecessary stress, get ready now.

Two Types of Emergency

1. The first type is one that is specific to the property you rent (i.e. a tree falls on this house, or the hot water heater bursts.) Appendix A addresses this Non-Disaster Emergency.
2. The second type of emergency is an area wide disaster (i.e. a hurricane or tornado) Appendix B addresses this type of emergency procedure.

Because we get advance warning for a hurricane, many people choose to leave town. If you leave, you still must secure the property prior to leaving. Then complete Appendix C, fax or bring it to the office before leaving. If the disaster does occur, please call before coming back to the property.

Tenant Responsibilities - Take steps to protect yourself and the property as you are able to do so. Your first concern should be for your family's safety. If damage occurs, try to minimize or stop additional damage. We have many thunder and lightning storms, power outages and high winds. An emergency could happen at any time. Be prepared.

SUMMARY - This Handbook Is For You - In the excitement of moving, we often don't remember all the instructions and requirements of the lease. This handbook was written to be used as a reference for you. Place it where you can easily find it. Before calling the office, look to see if the answer you seek is here. If you find something you think would be helpful to others, but is not included, please notify your Property Manager. We are always looking for additional ways to serve you.

Welcome to RPG - Again, welcome to our area and your new home. Please take advantage of the many opportunities to enjoy the beautiful and friendly St. Petersburg / Tampa Bay area. Should you decide to make this your permanent home, call the office, we would be happy to help you find that special place just for you. We look forward to a pleasant relationship and a happy renting experience.

RPG - Staff and Management

APPENDIX A

NON-DISASTER EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

(I.e. Kitchen fire, hot water burst, burst water pipe, tree on house, etc.)

Upon first occurrence or discovery of problem, secure from further damage immediately. The following is a summary of what to expect. Please post this note in a visible place. If any emergency does occur, notify the office immediately

Resident Responsibility

- Make sure everyone is safe.
- Take steps to prevent additional damage immediately.
- Turn off the source of water or electricity or gas, as the situation demands.
- Notify RPG, if it is after hours, leave a message.
- Make claim on Resident's insurance
- Notify RPG of Resident's insurance coverage
- Provide emergency (police, fire, etc.) report to RPG within 5 days of the incident.
- Provide access for insurance, repair people, etc. to assess and repair damage.
- Notify management of delays, "no show" appointments, and problems with repairs.

RPG Services Responsibility

- Notify the Owner, insurance company and repair companies.
- Take pictures of damage for Owner report.
- Inspect and take pictures of finished work.
- Handle complaints/conflicts between Resident and repair company.

You will be contacted by the insurance company. They will assess the damage. Within 3-10 days, depending on the severity of the damage and materials needed, the repairs will begin. Please remember that work is performed during normal daytime business hours, Monday through Friday and may require several days to complete. The repair company will set a time with you to work on the house. If you desire, they can check out a key from the office. You will need to call the office to coordinate with the office manager for key checkouts.

After the repairs are complete, management should call you to set up a time to re-inspect. If there is a delay, please contact the office. Sometimes the repair company is not prompt in scheduling the inspection. Your help is vital to this process.

You are responsible for any loss to the Owner due to Resident negligence. If the damage was caused by a current resident or a guest, please be aware all charges not covered by insurance will be billed to you.

APPENDIX B

DISASTER EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

1. Have an emergency preparedness plan, a checklist and a storm kit. Each year The St. Pete Times publishes a pull out section on emergency preparedness.
2. Upon first notification that a disaster emergency may occur, complete the **Disaster Plan-Tenant Form** (appendix C) in the back of this booklet.
3. Fax or deliver the Tenant Form to RPG. (Fax 727-323-4400 call first for fax)
4. If you cannot get through, call the office and read the information from the completed form to the voice mail system. Then mail the form immediately.
5. Stay tuned to the local news media and follow all recommended precautions and instructions. The Pinellas and Surrounding Counties area local governments have a thorough Disaster Plan, and the news media will keep us all informed.
6. During the storm or before leaving, please be sure to:
 - a. Turn off main breaker to house.
 - b. Turn off main gas line to house (Call Power Company for instructions).
 - c. Turn off main water supply to house.
 - d. Take all recommended precautions by the local news media and storm Bulletin publications.
 - e. Secure your pets, inside. If it is not safe for you outside, it is not safe for your pets either!
 - f. Secure all outside items:
Bring in swings sets, play houses, small planters, and anything that could turn into a flying object during high winds.
 - g. Secure house against damage:
Follow all recommendations by the local news and the emergency Preparedness.
 - h. Make sure management has a key for your house (have you changed locks lately?).
 - i. If you are leaving town, call the office before leaving and before returning to verify the House is safe to return to.

YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR SECURING THE HOME AGAINST POSSIBLE DAMAGE, BUT NOT FOR INSTALLING PLYWOOD COVERING UNLESS THE SHUTTERS ARE PRE CUT AND PROVIDED WITH THE PROPERTY.

APPENDIX C

DISASTERPLAN - TENANT FORM

Tenant Name: _____

Property Address: _____

Home Phone #: _____ Work Phone #: _____

Emergence phone #: _____

Who is your insurance carrier? _____

Who is your Agent? _____

Are you leaving town? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, how can we reach you? _____

HAVE YOU:

1. Turned off electricity at main breaker box?
2. Shut off gas?
3. Shut off main water supply to house?
4. Taken your pets with you or to a pet shelter?
5. Secured all outside items?
6. Notified management you are leaving and how to contact you?

APPENDIX D

CLEANING GUIDELINES FOR MOVE-OUT CONDITION SURVEY

- 1.** Gently sweep ceilings for cobwebs and dust. Clean all ceiling fans, light fixtures, replace missing or burned out light bulbs (proper bulbs and wattage).
- 2.** Clean all interior and exterior doors, walls, trim baseboards, windowsills and the window grids. Some paint is difficult to wash, but try to get off the smudges, fingerprints and marks.
- 3.** Clean blinds, windows, window sills/sashes, storm windows, doors and storm doors inside and out. Clean both sides of all doors (interior and exterior). Sliding glass door tracks must be clear of any dust, dirt, or sand and be moving freely. Check for any torn screens or broken windows that need repair.
- 4.** Change the heat/AC filter, clean the grate, vacuum all vents and bathroom vent fans. Clean and sweep out the fireplace. Remove all old logs and ashes. Clean fireplace screen and glass.
- 5.** Clean the stove, replace the drip pans, clean the oven, racks, oven door, broiler parts, hood, under the hood, filter and vent. Leave the broiler pan in the oven. If there is woodwork under the oven, be careful oven cleaner does not drip on woodwork.
- 6.** Clean all cabinets, drawers and shelves, inside and out. Use a product such as Murphy's Oil Soap, then finish with a product such as Scott's Liquid Gold on all wood cabinets, paneling and unpainted woodwork. Please follow all manufacturer's and label directions.
- 7.** Clean refrigerator, if provided, with a mild soap. Follow with a vinegar solution and leave it turned on. Clean the underneath, behind, grillwork, inside all door gaskets, and the drip pan.
- 8.** Bathrooms should be thoroughly scrubbed to include toilet bowls and base, sink, mirror, vanity, floor, bathtub/showers and walls. Make sure all soap scum is off the tubs, showers and doors. Finish with a mildew resistant cleaner. Wipe out medicine cabinets; remove all soap and detergents (toilet paper may be left).
- 9.** Mop and wax all vinyl floors, where appropriate, and professionally clean all ceramic tile and grout. All carpets must be professionally steam cleaned after the house is vacant. (Please contact office for a list of acceptable carpet and tile cleaning companies) Save your receipt and give to management at the final appointment. A dry chemical cleaning is not acceptable. Any stains must be remedied.
- 10.** Sweep out the garage, clear out the attic. Leave any garbage cans inside the garage. Windows in garage must be cleaned.
- 11.** Mow the yard, trim the shrubbery, prune small trees, edge and sweep all walkways and driveways. Rake the leaves and pick up all the trash. Clean out the flowerbeds and replace with fresh bedding. Garbage bags may not be left out more than one day. Please arrange with friends or neighbors to put garbage out on collection day.

APPENDIX E

HOW TO SUBMIT A MAINTENANCE REQUEST

Detailed below are steps to take in order to submit a maintenance request, please follow this procedure in order to make sure you receive expedited service. We ask that you do not e-mail or text maintenance request.

1. In your internet browser of choice go to <http://www.russellpg.com/>
2. Click on the tab labeled TENANTS.
3. Click on the tab labeled Maintenance Requests.
4. Once on the “**Submit a Maintenance Request**” screen, fill out the provided fields and click Submit Request.
5. Please be as thorough as possible so we can try to send the correct vendor to repair or maintenance the item.
6. Please keep in mind; you are responsible for light bulbs, batteries, smoke detectors and monthly changing of your a/c filters.
7. If you lock yourself out of your apartment and need someone from RPM to bring you a key, there will be a minimum service charge depending upon location and time of day.

Thank you!