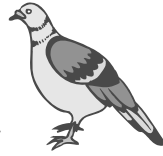


BLEECKER'S MISS MANNERS

Dear Miss Manners,



I have pigeons. I admit that I don't use my balcony, except for storage and feeding the pigeons. However, I don't like the pigeons anymore now and I want the office to deal with it. When will the maintenance staff come and clean up the mess they have created? You know, pigeons and their dried droppings carry many diseases like: **Histoplasmosis, Candidiasis, Cryptococcosis, E.coli, and even Bed bugs...** just to name a few.

- Byrd Brain

Dear Byrd,

You may not be aware of this, but the balcony is actually part of your living space (yes, 'living' not 'storage' space).

As such, you are actually responsible for keeping it reasonably clean and pest-free. Of course, when members are taking reasonable care of the space and the problem still persists, staff will **assist** them in eliminating the problem. Please inform staff if you see pigeons: roosting on railings, nesting on balconies, (this occurs when the balcony is full of "stuff"), or if you see members feeding pigeons on co-op property. We need your help to control this problem. Here is how you can help: use your balconies, keep them reasonably clean, and call the **Pigeon Snitch Line** to report those who are harboring/feeding these pests @ 416-920-7340. We will send a special task force to clean (and if warranted) **charge** the offending parties with costs related to the clean-up. The co-op has been diligent in trying to keep these pests away, so please do your part to help.

- Miss Manners

Dear Miss Manners,

They are everywhere, everywhere, they are tiny and red, and they are driving me to drink (try the Wolf Blass Gold Label Pinot Gris—it's great—and a steal at \$21.95—LCBO). However, I digress...what can be done to wipe out these evil invaders?

- Mr. Hives



Dear Mr. Hives,

I know these critters— they aren't your run-of-the-mill picnic ants; they scatter many small nests throughout the apartments. They are called Pharaoh Ants (rumour has it that their *queen* is that girl in the office with the black Cleopatra-hair...) Pharaoh Ants feed on protein foods, fats, cheese and sugar and are commonly found in health-care facilities and high-rise apartments. The co-op has been working with our pest control specialist to find a solution to this growing problem but we have had limited success. Our next strategy is to treat the entire building at the same time; in the meantime please **DO NOT USE SPRAYS** this fragments the colonies and **makes the infestation worse. Also, if your unit HAS been treated, cease from killing the ants, as they need a window of time in which to transport the treatment particles to their nest. DO use ant baits(traps)** and replace them often. We have ant traps in the office in the interim. Thank you for your co-operation in addressing this difficult problem.

- Miss Manners

More Miss Manner

Bleecker Street Co-operative Homes



Dear Miss Manners,

A friend of a friend said that they have been on the waiting list for 5 years; they need a two bedroom , a subsidy and want to move in as soon as it is convenient for them. What is the hold up? They are nice (they have only been evicted twice from previous apartments) and they really, really want to live here. I know that people have moved and there must be a subsidy available—they deserve one. You guys told them they were at the top of the list and that subsidy was no problem.

- Co-op Member

Dear Co-op Member,

Thanks for inquiring about the friends of your friend, but don't worry they are really good at advocating on their own behalf. In fact, every Wednesday when they arrive at the office at 5:10 PM Ali tells them the same things:

1. **THERE IS NO SUBSIDY AVAILABLE**
2. Members already living in the co-op are given priority on the two bedroom and subsidy waiting lists
3. There are no vacant units for showing
4. If you are available on short notice we will consider your application on a priority basis to avoid vacancy loss.

In fact, this information has become our Wednesday night mantra, we repeat it so much. Tell your friends that standing and staring at office staff does not spontaneously create vacancies, in fact it may cause their application to be lost for a very, very long time.

-Miss Manners

Dear Miss Manners,

I want to move-out tomorrow. I am in love, have already bought a house and now I need to save money so giving notice is out of the question. I know that a lot of people want to move in here so what is the big deal? Just move'em in and forget about it. You guys have too many rules... it is not *my* problem if the rent goes up due to vacancy loss. I am SO outta here!



-All-About-Me

Dear All-About-Me,

I appreciate your concern about your responsibilities to the co-op and your financial commitments. Sorry about all the pesky "rules" they really are for other people aren't they? Just so that you know, unless there is an unexpected, serious situation you are required to give **65 days written notice ending at the end of a rental period (for example, notice given on August 25th would set you free on October 31st)**. When reasonable and possible, staff is willing to work with members to accommodate their request for short-notice, but **only if vacancy loss can be avoided**.

-Miss Manners

Bleecker's Upcoming Events

- Coffee House & BBQ
Friday, August 31, 2007 - 6:00pm to 10:00pm
- CHFT's Winter Coat Fundraiser
August 21 & August 28
- ArtsWeek - More info forthcoming
- Community Bus Trips-More info forthcoming
- Workshops/Classes - More info forthcoming