



HOUSING STABILITY GUIDE



Resource availability is dependent on current program funding & staffing, and may be subject to income verification or other eligibility screening requirements. This guide is not meant to be exhaustive or a substitute for legal advice.



This guide connects both tenants and landlords with resources to help with housing difficulties that lead to safety concerns, interpersonal conflict, or financial instability.

HOUSING SAFETY CONCERNS

LOCAL CODE ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS

Contact your city/county to see if they can assist tenants with unresolved maintenance concerns

CITY OF BELLINGHAM RENTAL REGISTRATION & SAFETY INSPECTION PROGRAM

Register rentals, exemption info, inspection history, code enforcement, landlord-tenant & Fair Housing law information

☎ 360-778-8361

WA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Provides guidance on prevention & treatment of mold, pests, and other home safety issues

☎ 800-525-0127

NORTHWEST CLEAN AIR AGENCY

Regional agency handling air quality complaints & mold guidance

☎ 360-428-1617

OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL HOME REPAIR & WEATHERIZATION

Assistance with improving energy efficiency, air quality, and other home health & safety concerns

☎ 360-734-5121
ext. 1020

Need More Help?

To view the Food & Meal, Clothing, Housing and Hygiene Guides, scan the code or visit



<https://whatcomabc.org/library>

LANDLORD/TENANT RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD TENANT ACT

WA state laws (RCW 59.18) covering landlord-tenant obligations and rights

WA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Handles consumer complaints, rent stabilization enforcement, eviction notices, and Right to Counsel information

☎ 360-753-6200

COMMUNITY SPECIFIC RENTAL REGULATIONS

Some cities have additional landlord-tenant rules and resources

Bellingham Housing Laws, Rental Protections & Requirements

Ferndale Landlord & Tenant Resources

Landlords, property managers, and renters can work together to share resources, find proactive solutions, avoid misunderstandings, and build a stable housing relationship.



HOUSING DISCRIMINATION CONCERNS

FAIR HOUSING CENTER OF WASHINGTON

Support and assistance with filing Fair Housing Complaints & disability-related accommodation requests

☎ 253-274-9523

WA STATE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Receives & investigates complaints of housing discrimination based on a protected class

☎ 800-233-3247

U.S. DEPT OF HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Receives & investigates complaints of housing discrimination under the Fair Housing, Civil Rights, & Violence Against Women Acts

☎ 800-669-9777

TENANT SUPPORT

TENANTS UNION OF WA STATE

Statewide tenant resources, Know Your Rights workshops, housing FAQ guides, multilingual Tenant Rights Hotline, and community organizing

☎ 206-723-0500

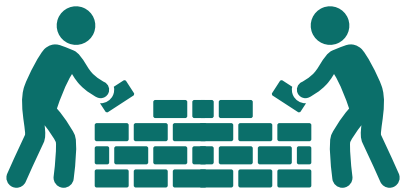
COMMUNITY FIRST WHATCOM

Regional tenant protection & financial stability advocacy, organizing, education, and resources

SOLID GROUND

Statewide housing stability supports, resources, online workshops, tenant counseling services, landlord-tenant law tools and FAQ

☎ 206-694-6767



LANDLORD SUPPORT

WA DEPT OF COMMERCE LANDLORD RESOURCE CENTER

State resource hub, access to Landlord Mitigation/Damage Relief Program, annual max rent increase info, low-income weatherization/repairs, and legal info

☎ 360-725-2949

STATE LEVEL HOUSING PROVIDER ORGS

Statewide member-based landlord and housing provider organizations that offer resources, education, support, advocacy, tenant screenings, rental marketing, and access to city-specific leases & legal forms

RENTAL HOUSING ASSOCIATION OF WA

☎ 206-283-0816

WA LANDLORD ASSOCIATION

☎ 425-353-6929

WA MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING ASSOCIATION

☎ 425-656-9077

MEDIATION & LEGAL SUPPORT

WHATCOM DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER HOUSING STABILITY PROGRAM

Voluntary free/low cost mediation & mutual agreement support, conflict coaching, tenant training & resource referrals

☎ 360-676-0122 ext. 115

NORTHWEST JUSTICE PROJECT

Statewide nonprofit providing free civil legal assistance, eviction support/representation to low-income tenants

☎ 855-657-8387 Eviction Defense

☎ 888-201-1014 CLEAR Hotline

LAW ADVOCATES OF WHATCOM COUNTY

Local nonprofit providing free legal aid, representation referrals, and drop-in clinics to low-income area tenants

☎ 360-671-6079

SKAGIT LEGAL AID

Regional nonprofit providing free legal aid, eviction representation, immigration support, and legal clinics for low-income residents

☎ 360-230-8100

DVSAS (DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES)

Local 24/7 abuse reporting, support, legal assistance, education and advocacy for those affected by DV or SA

☎ 877-715-1563

WOMENSLAW.ORG

State VAWA housing protection info, lease termination guidelines, and 24/7 National Domestic Violence Hotline

☎ 800-799-7233

DOING RESEARCH?

Visit washingtonlawhelp.org to find forms, guides and an online legal library. [Whatcom County Law Library](http://WhatcomCountyLawLibrary.org) offers online & in-person legal resources & research assistance



WA STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Statewide private attorney directory, legal aid FAQ, and self-help legal resources

☎ 800-945-9722

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL HOMELESS PREVENTION

Temporary rent subsidies and support securing housing for qualifying households

☎ 360-746-3826

OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL UTILITY ASSISTANCE & BILL DISCOUNTS

Eligible households can apply for assistance to reduce electricity and heating bills

☎ 360-255-2192

WA HOMEOWNERSHIP RESOURCE CENTER

Statewide homeowner foreclosure prevention, repair assistance, financial counseling, and resource support

☎ 877-894-4663

Visit a locally maintained online directory of social services at

Q whatcomresources.org

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OPPORTUNITY COUNCIL LANDLORD LIAISON

Housing conflict resolution, basic Fair Housing & Landlord-Tenant law support, and referrals to community resources

☎ 360-296-1254

REGIONAL RESOURCE HUBS

Contact a Regional Resource Hub for community-specific information, and other available programs

WHATCOM COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

☎ 360-734-5121 ext. 3

EAST WHATCOM REGIONAL RESOURCE CENTER

☎ 360-599-3944

FERNDAL COMMUNITY SERVICES

☎ 360-380-2200

BLAINE COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

☎ 360-392-8484