

LINWOOD NEWS

Special Edition

If You See Something, Say Something



At approximately 7:58 PM on Sunday, March 12, a small fire was discovered in the basement compactor chute room in one of our buildings.

Delvis Contreras, the on-duty super, responded quickly and managed to extinguish the fire before the fire department arrived. The fire was caused by several residents disposing of shredded papers, empty cans of cat food, plastic bags and Amazon envelopes. Residents were able to return to their apartments within the hour.

Over the past several months the Fire Department has been called to Linwood Park 7 times due to people not following the rules as to how to dispose of their garbage. Not following the rules is a potential problem with the most serious being the loss of 45 apartments, people hurt or killed, and possessions lost.

FYI—WHAT NOT TO THROW IN A TRASH CHUTE

Trash chutes are a simple, convenient way to move trash from an apartment to the dumpster without trekking it down several flights of stairs or through other living areas. Trash chutes are long, horizontal chambers in most multi-level buildings with access **points on each floor**. **Residents can drop trash in the chute on their floor, and it will be safely and discretely carried to the trash compactor. However, there are some general guidelines for what should and should NOT go down the trash chute.**

What Is Allowed Down A Trash Chute?

The main [purpose of a trash chute](#) is to dispose of typical household or office garbage. It is unsanitary to carry bags of trash through residential areas, not to mention unsightly, so the trash chute provides a sanitary way to dispose of any garbage safely.

Any usual household garbage is allowed in a regular-sized trash bag, usually about 13-gallon capacity or less. This could include paper products and food waste secured in a bag. All domestic waste should be bagged and tied tightly before putting the bag in the chute to prevent lost items or contaminants which may get stuck.

What Not To Put Down the Trash Chute: While some apartment buildings will have specific rules on how to use the trash chute, the list of what not to put down the trash chute is generally the same.

Pizza boxes or other large cardboard boxes that have not been broken down, as these will cause obstructions and could get food waste on the walls of the chute

- Plants or Christmas trees, living or dead. They can leak sap inside the chute or get stuck
- Protruding objects such as hangers or those that can easily get tangled, like strings of Christmas lights
- Loose garbage, like cans, packing boxes, or food waste, can attract pests or damage the trash compactor at the bottom of the chute
- Flammable items, such as lit cigarettes, aerosol cans that are not empty, or other incendiary items
- Loose dirty diapers or cat litter, as it will cause smells and is hard to clean
- Garbage bags larger than 13 gallons
- Loose cleaning products or liquid soap that may get stuck to the walls

Tips For Using A Trash Chute:

- Be mindful of the time of day you use the chute. Trash chutes can be noisy as the doors are opened and trash drops on several floors. Try to refrain from using the chute late at night or early morning to be courteous to your neighbors.
- Ensure your garbage goes all the way and down the chute. **If you are concerned the trash chute may be stuck or appears too big for the chute, Leave it on the floor in the compactor room. Do not leave trash by the chute door.**
- Break down cardboard and place it in the designated recycling bin (1st-floor compactor room).
- Make sure all garbage is bagged and secured tightly so the trash easily slides down the chute and does not leave waste behind on the walls
- Use smaller garbage bags to help prevent clogs. Even if you force a large bag, such as a 30-gallon bag, through the trash chute door, it may still get stuck on the way down. **Only use bags 13 gallons or smaller.**
- Take your trash out regularly to [prevent smells](#) or buildup.



Recycling —clean bottles and cans, newspapers, magazines/ print materials and cardboard boxes/ broken down are to be placed in the recycling bin located in the 1st-floor compactor room.

How to dispose of batteries in NJ: Flashlight and game batteries (AA, AAA, C, D and 9V) should be placed in the trash container but NOT in the Compactor Chute.

Electronics and Rechargeable Batteries Drop-off Site-

Fort Lee DPW 530 Jane St. Monday-Friday 7:00 AM to 3:30 PM- Visit the New Jersey website “Avoid The Spark” or call 1-877-2-RECYCLE, to find a collection site. Sites include AT&T, Best Buy, Home Depot, Lowe’s, Office Depot, Staples, Target, US Cellular and Verizon Wireless.

To Find where to recycle TVs and more, **Download Bergen County’s RECYCLE COACH APP- a free app.**

A Final Note: We know that we have many residents who are ‘aging in place’ for these individuals, there are services available and provided by the Bergen County Department of Human Services, Aging and Disability Resource Connection 201-336-7400 www.co.Bergen.nj.us. If you know of anybody in need of support or assistance, please contact this office to request the Key Services Guide -Older Adults and Caregivers.

Springtime is election time at Linwood Park- If you are interested in becoming an active member of our community, we would love to hear from you. Please complete the information page you recently received and return it to the Management office at your earliest convenience. The election of board members will be held in early May.

Linwood Phone Numbers to keep in your phone:

Maintenance Office- 201-944-7135 M-F, 8:30 AM-4:30 PM

Management Office - 201-944-2038 M-F 9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Security Department - 201-376-8758 (24/7)

Super on Duty: 201-376-8757 after hours (Call for emergencies)

E-mails: office@1170apcorp.com/maintenance@1170apcorp.com

Submitted by: Geri Powder and the Board of Directors