

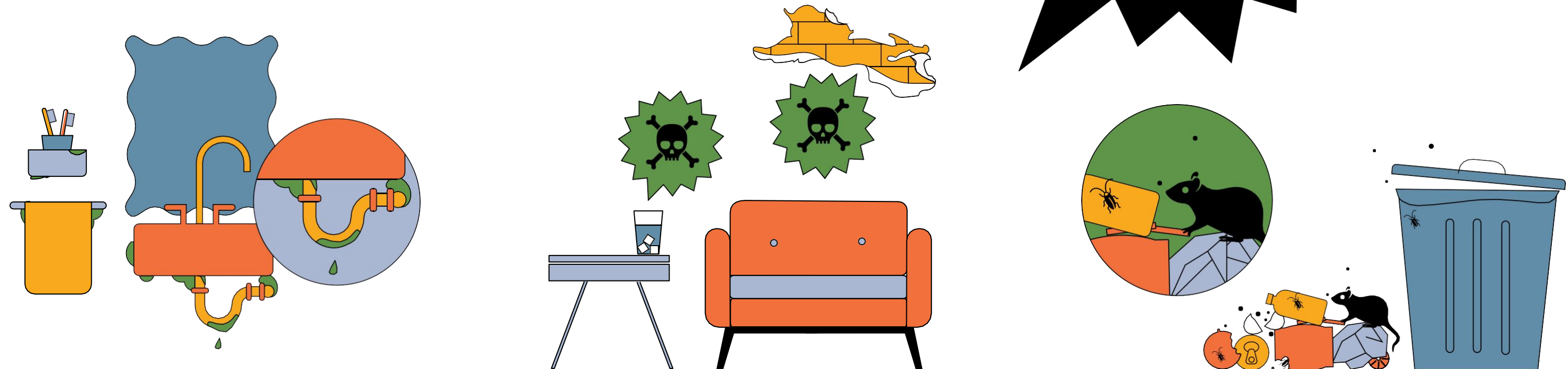
Your **NYCHA** Home Affects Your Health!

Part of the NYCHA Real Talk series

Mold, Lead, and Pests

Mold, lead, and pests are common problems inside buildings.

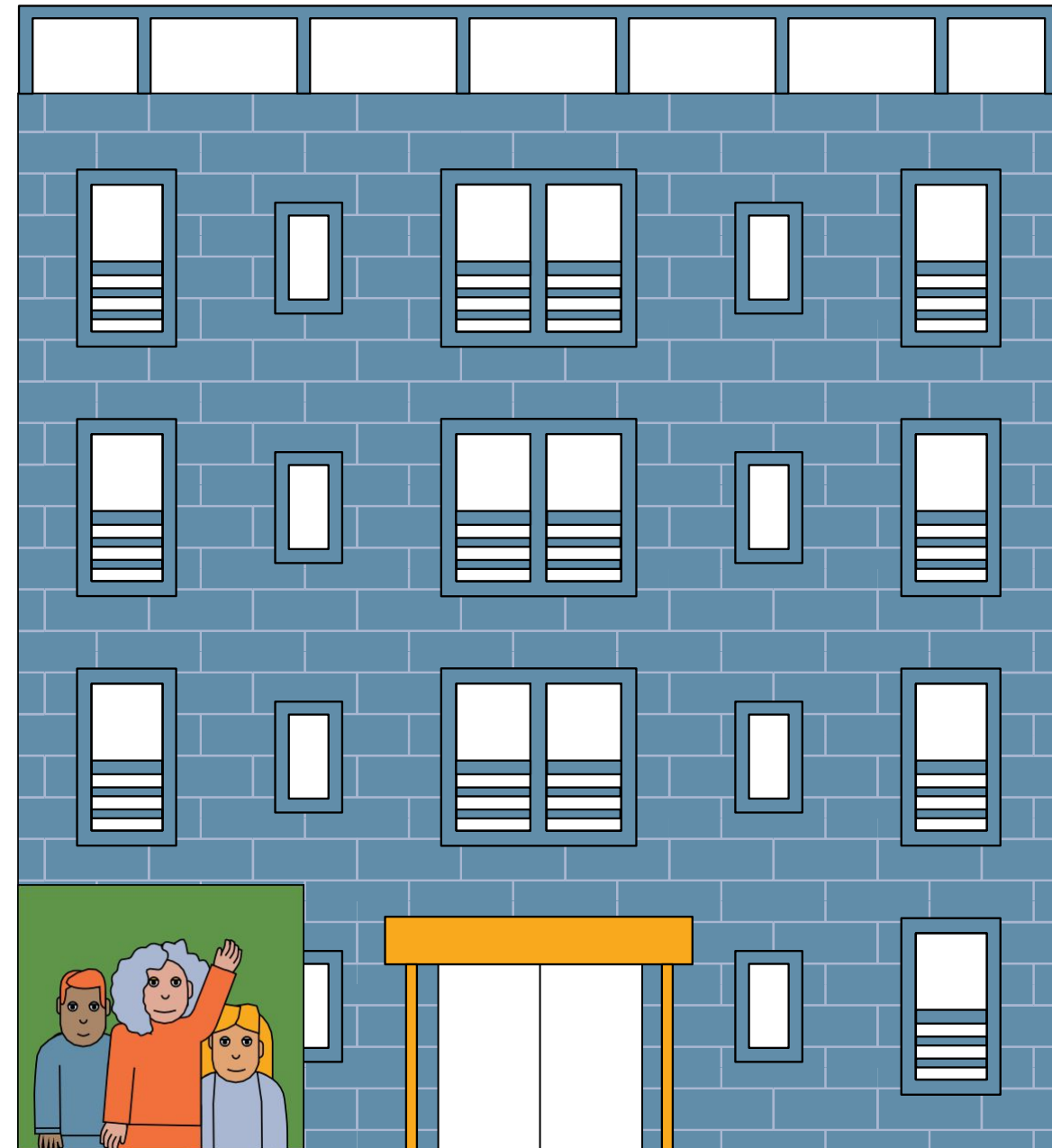
If NYCHA doesn't do regular maintenance to get rid of them, they can make you and your family very sick.



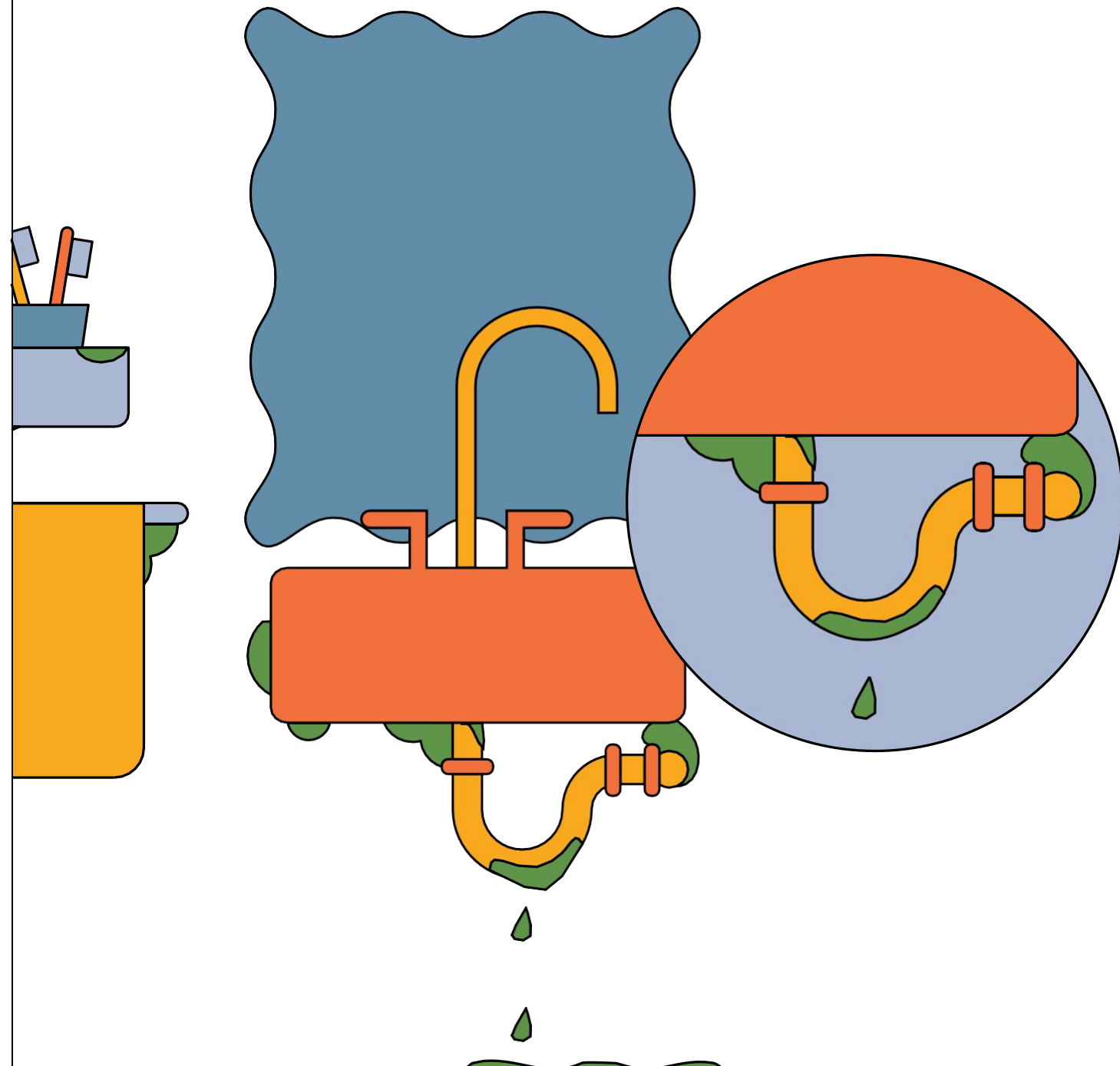
Mold, Lead, and Pests

It's really important to hold NYCHA accountable for making sure you have a healthy home!

It's not something you have to tackle alone!



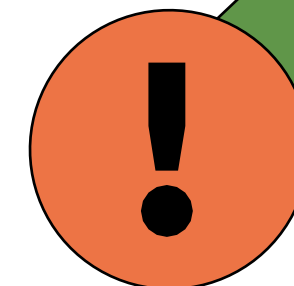
Mold



Mold can grow anywhere there is moisture, like where there are leaks, under sinks, or in bathrooms that don't have good airflow.

Signs of mold in your home:

- Feeling sick or experiencing breathing issues without cold symptoms
- Mold spores, clusters of black, brown, or green dots, or a musty or damp smell



You may not see it if it's growing under a surface or behind a wall

Lead



Lead is a poison that can't be seen or smelled, but can be found in paint on the walls or ceilings, or your drinking water.

Signs of lead in your home:

- You can't tell if your home has lead in it just by looking at it! You have to get it tested by NYCHA to find out
- Lead testing is especially important if you have a young child in your home
- Let NYCHA know by filling out the questionnaire on the Self-Service Portal at: <https://selfserve.nycha.info>

Pests



Common pests include mice and rats, roaches, bedbugs, and other insects. Pests are attracted to food, trash, and moisture.

Signs of pests in your home:

- Droppings, bites, or dead pests
- Chewed up food packages

Health Effects

Mold

- Makes allergies and asthma worse, and causes other breathing problems
- Can cause chronic headaches, fever, nausea and vomiting, and sore throats
- Especially dangerous for children, the elderly, and people who are sick



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Lead

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- Causes behavioral, nervous system, heart, and muscle problems in children and adults



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Pests

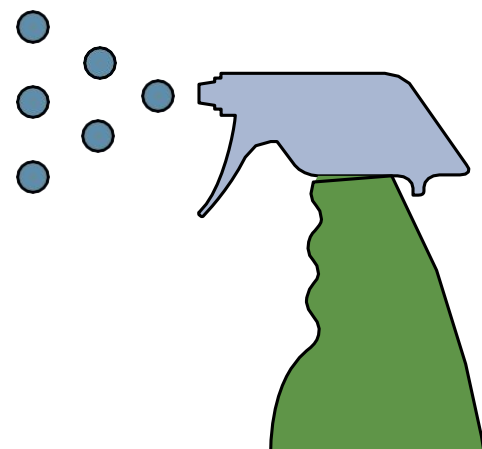
- Cause many problems, like making asthma worse and spreading other infectious diseases
- Pesticides used to kill pests can also be harmful to your health



What You Can Do About It

Mold

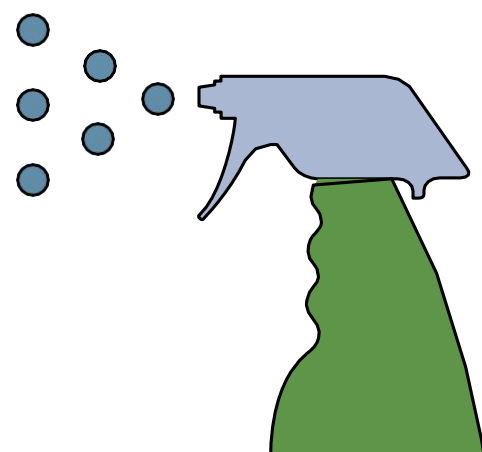
- Check moist areas of your house for mold
- Make sure your apartment has good ventilation
- Clean mold on hard surfaces and replace soft surfaces like carpet



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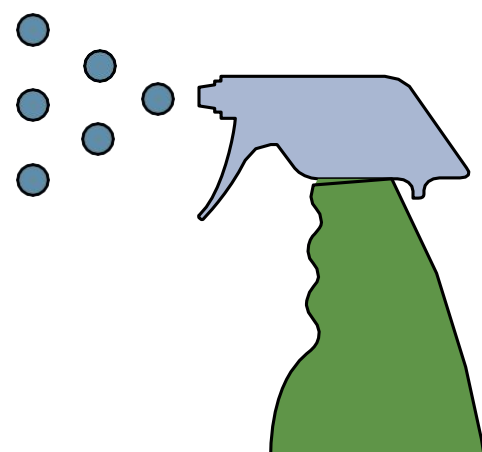
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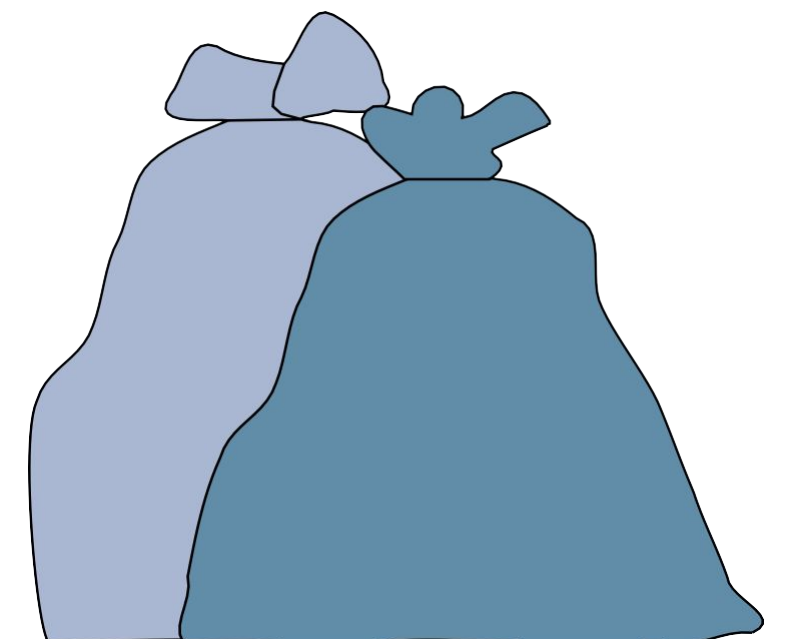
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Pests

- Keep garbage in sealed bags or containers and remove it from your home every day
- Store food in sealed containers



But NYCHA is responsible for making sure you have a healthy home, and removing mold, lead, and pests, as well as the things that are causing them.

***This is
the law!***

Hold NYCHA Accountable



- Put a ticket in to NYCHA about your mold, lead, or pest issues
- If you have young children, make sure NYCHA knows, so that they'll respond faster
- Keep a record of your conversations
- Demand full repairs
- When they test your apartment, ask them the exact level of lead

Escalate the Issue



THERE'S
MOLD IN MY
APARTMENT!

For mold, call the Mold and Leak Ombudsperson Call Center at: 1-888-341-7152

Escalate the Issue



MY NEIGHBORS
AND I HAVE
PESTS IN OUR
APARTMENTS!



**For systemic issues,
get in touch with your
neighbors and call the
Federal Monitor together
at 844-309-6080**

**If NYCHA isn't solving
your problem...**

Organize With Your Neighbors

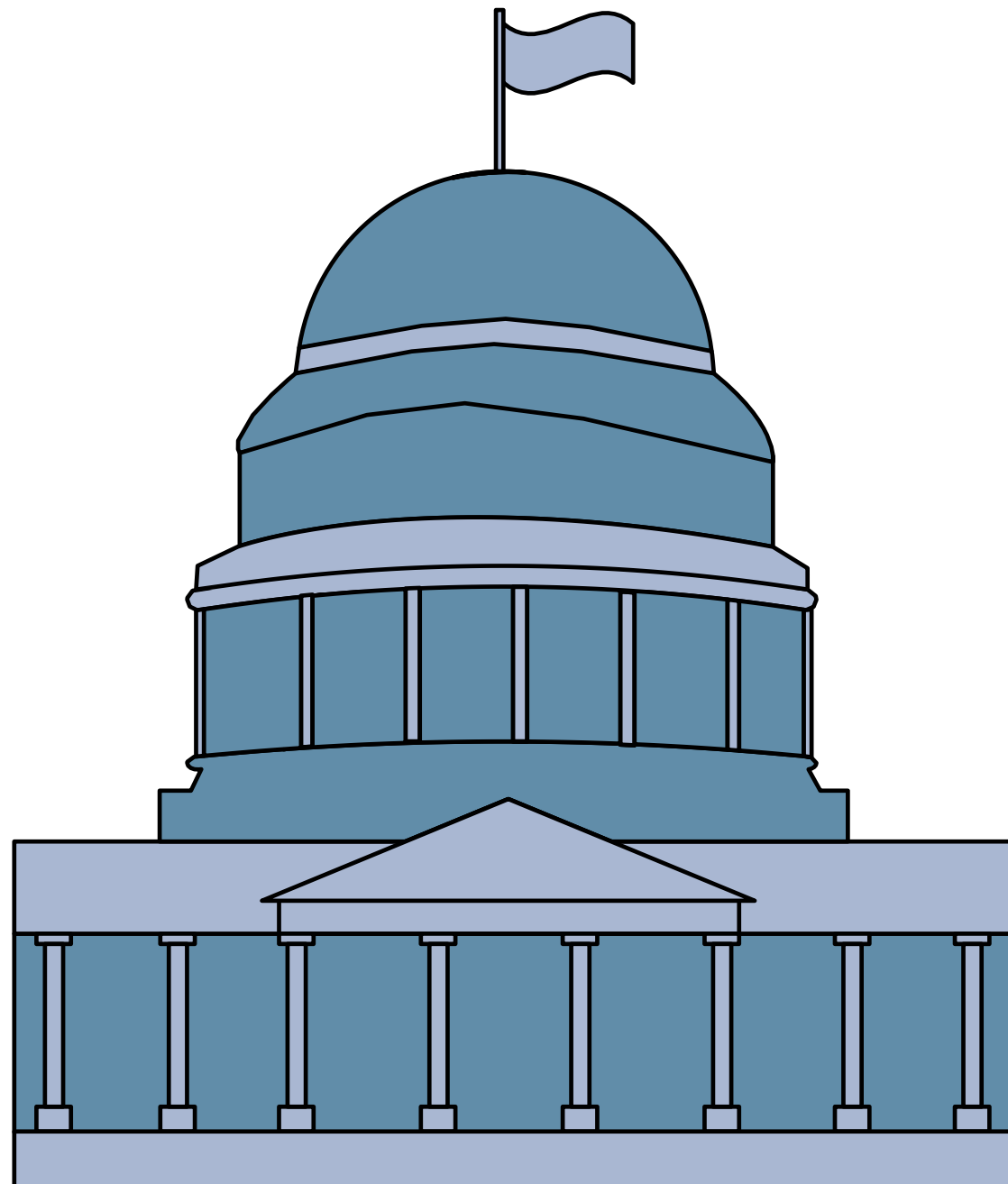


Join a Community Organization



**Contact a local
community
organization:
Email or Call**

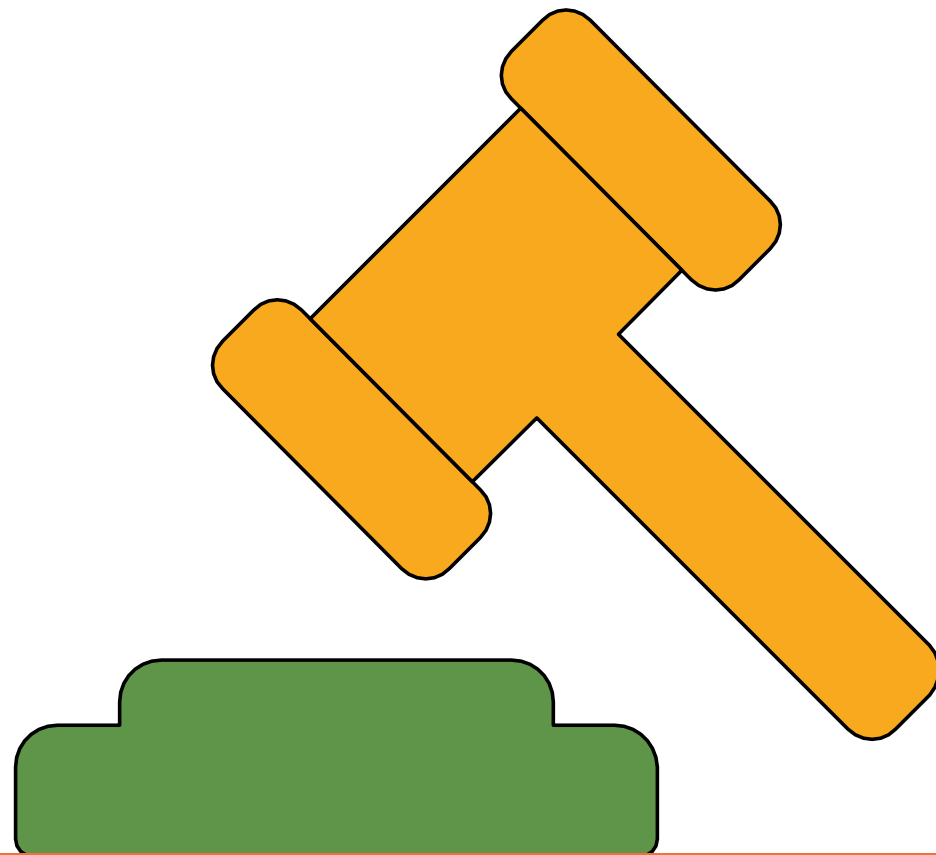
Get Elected Officials Involved



Contact your city council members. Find them at: mygovnyc.org

Vote!

Take NYCHA to Court



**Housing Court Answers
can give you the most up
to date information about
how to sue NYCHA for
repairs, and how to get an
attorney to represent you.
(212) 962-4795 or
housingcouranswers.org**

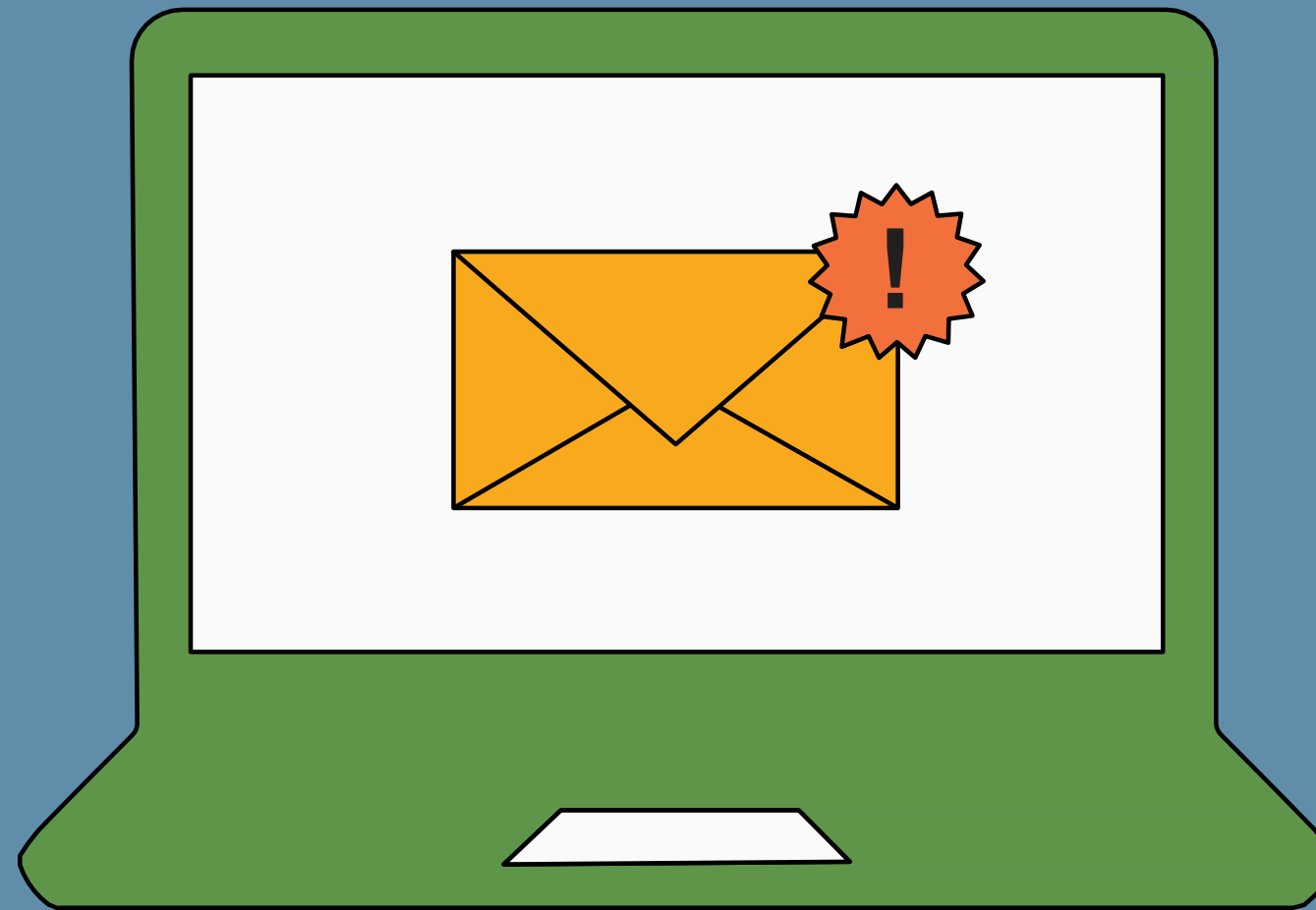
Other Resources



Email the Community Service Society to sign up for their “NYCHA Need to Know” newsletter

Read quarterly reports from the Federal Monitor

Join a Community Organization!



Email or Call

Questions/Discussion