

What to say, and where to send it

Applewood Apartments, Orwigsburg — for residents, families, friends and neighbors

IT MUST ARRIVE BY WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

You do not need to be a tenant to write. Family members, friends, caregivers, doctors, church members and local business owners can all write. More voices from more kinds of people is exactly what helps.

1 • Copy this. Change the parts in the boxes. Send it.

To USDA Rural Development,

I am writing about the request to prepay the Section 515 loan on **Applewood Apartments in Orwigsburg, Pennsylvania.**

I am a (tenant / family member / neighbor / caregiver / doctor / business owner).

(One or two sentences in your own words. What would happen to the people who live there? Anything true is worth saying.)

Please deny this prepayment. If it is approved, please require that rents keep being calculated the way they are now, and that Rental Assistance continues.

Thank you,

(your name, town, and the date)

2 • Where to send it

Who	How
USDA Rural Development The people deciding	MFHPortfolioManagement@usda.gov Copy: michelle.groshens@usda.gov Or mail: Portfolio Management Branch, Attn: Michelle Groshens, PO Box 771340, St. Louis, MO 63177
FEDERAL — only these three can open an inquiry with USDA. On each website look for “ Help with a federal agency ”. That is the right page.	

Rep. Dan Meuser Our congressman	meuser.house.gov/services/help-federal-agency or call Pottsville 570-871-6370
Sen. John Fetterman	fetterman.senate.gov/help-with-a-federal-agency or call Harrisburg 717-782-3951
Sen. Dave McCormick	mccormick.senate.gov → Helping Pennsylvania or call Harrisburg 717-231-7540
STATE — they cannot open a federal inquiry, but they carry weight locally.	
State Rep. Jamie Barton He lives in Orwigsburg	repbarton.com/contact or call Tamaqua 570-668-1240
State Sen. David Argall	dargall@pasen.gov (he does publish an address) or call Pottsville 570-621-3400

3 • If you telephone, this is all you have to say

"I'm calling about Applewood Apartments in Orwigsburg. USDA is deciding whether to let the owner pay off the federal loan early, and 40 homes could lose their rent protection. I'm asking your office to open a congressional inquiry with USDA Rural Development."

If they say they are not sure how they can help, that is normal. Say: **"You don't have to solve it. I'm just asking your office to open an inquiry and ask USDA some questions."** Every congressional office does this. Then ask for the person's name.

4 • Things that help most

- **Say how long you or your family member has lived there.** Many have been there 12 to 18 years.
- **Say if there is a disability, an illness, or if you are over 62.** USDA has to weigh this.
- **Say if you receive Rental Assistance.** Every apartment in the filing does.
- **Doctors and caregivers:** say what moving would do to a patient's care. This carries real weight.
- **Keep it short and true.** Three honest sentences beat three polished pages.

Post the flyer, hand it to a neighbor, or read it aloud to someone who cannot read small print. Anyone who wants help writing theirs can ask — nobody should miss this because it was hard to do alone. Everything, including photos and longer sample letters, is at **saveapplewood.org**.