When would I want to have my apartment inspected?
If there are things wrong with your apartment that may be dangerous to your health and safety, you may want to have your apartment inspected.

Who should I call to get my home or apartment inspected?
Your local county health department and your local building inspection department inspect homes and apartments. Because the health department and the building inspectors look at different kinds of problems, call them both.

What does the Health Department look for?
The health department looks for problems like rodents, lead paint, not enough heat or hot water or unsanitary conditions. The Erie County Health Department's general information number is (716) 961-6800. You can reach the Niagara County Department of Health at (716) 439-7444 or at (716) 278-8588. The number for the Genesee County Health Department is (585) 344-2580 Ext. 5555.

What does the building inspector look for?
The building inspector looks at structural problems such as holes in the walls, exposed wires, improper insulation, broken sinks or toilets.

What is the building inspector’s number in Buffalo?
In Buffalo, the building inspector’s number is 851-4949. If you live in a building with three or more apartments and there are problems throughout the building, you may want to call the multiple dwelling inspector at 851-4935. If you have serious problems with the electrical or plumbing systems in your home, you may want to call the electrical inspector at 851-4928 or the plumbing inspector at 851-5067.

What about outside of Buffalo?
Look in the blue pages of your telephone book under the city, town or village that you live in. If there is not a listing for a building inspector, call the town clerk for a phone number.

Should I get a copy of the inspection report?
Yes. Ask the inspector what you need to do to get a copy of the report. Be sure to get the inspector’s name, in case there are any problems, or any questions.
What if my landlord tries to evict me after I report housing conditions?
If you are current on your rent and your landlord gives you notice to move within one year of you reporting conditions to the landlord, the landlord's agent, or an agency, the court will presume that the landlord is acting in retaliation. The landlord has the burden to show the court that the eviction is not in retaliation for reporting housing conditions.