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Live Smoke Free e-News

www.mnsmokefreehousing.org

Smoke-Free Multi-Housing

Winter 2009

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Live Smoke Free educates tenants, landlords, and other interested groups about the benefits of smoke-free multi-housing.

**Smoke-Free Multi-Housing:
Healthier Buildings,
Happier Tenants,
A Smart Investment.**

Dear Carissa,

Thank you for your interest in smoke-free housing! If you would like more information on smoke-free housing, or if you have any questions, the Live Smoke Free staff would be happy to help.

Smoke-Free Building Highlights

Steven Scott Management offers smoke-free buildings around the Twin Cities!

Twin Cities renters can find more options for smoke-free living thanks to [Steven Scott Management](#). This spring, Steven Scott will open a newly constructed building that is completely smoke free. [The Pointe at River Crossing](#) has made a commitment to protecting the health of residents from the dangers of secondhand smoke exposure. The luxury property has also been built with sustainable living and green initiatives in mind.

The Pointe is currently the third smoke-free building for Steven Scott Management. [Bierman Place](#) is located in Minneapolis near the University of Minnesota and offers a completely smoke-free building for university students. [Creekside Apartments](#) in Plymouth is partially smoke free and is in the process of adopting a smoke-free policy for the entire building.

[Waterstone Place](#) is a Steven Scott building that will be implementing a smoke-free policy April 1st. Two other Steven Scott communities will be working to become partially smoke free in 2009.

New Brochures for Renters Seeking Solutions to Secondhand Smoke Problems

Live Smoke Free receives many phone calls from renters who are experiencing secondhand smoke drifting into their unit from somewhere else in or near the building. When a call comes in, our staff works with the renter to brainstorm some solutions for solving his or her problem.

However, we know that there are many renters out there who have problems with secondhand smoke drift who do not reach out to Live Smoke Free. Often, renters are unaware that there are solutions to their problems, and they are unaware that Live Smoke Free is available to help them for free.

Free Signs!

Landlords and managers of smoke-free buildings can receive free signs for their buildings.

All signs have a similar message, "For the health of our residents and guests, this building is 100% smoke free."

- Window/glass door clings available in English only, English/Hmong, and English/Spanish
- Metal plaques for common areas and unit doors
- 12"x18" metal signs to be mounted outdoors
- Lawn signs with a place to write your phone number
- Banners to place on property
- Magnet shopping lists to place in units as new tenants move in

To receive materials, visit our web site or call us at 651-646-3005.



National News

[Apartment Search for People with Disabilities](#) (search for smoke-free housing via advanced search)

[The Today Show Explains the Dangers of Thirdhand Smoke](#) (video)

In order to make renters more aware of their rights and the services offered by Live Smoke Free, we have created new brochures to educate renters:

- **Secondhand Smoke in Your Apartment:** A first look at strategies and resources for solving a secondhand smoke problem. This brochure is designed for renters who have not yet spoken to Live Smoke Free. The brochure is available in English and Spanish.
- **What to Know Before You Rent:** Information about the benefits of smoke-free multi-housing. This brochure is designed for first-time renters or people who are re-entering multi-housing after living in a single-family home.

If you work with renters and would like to receive any of these brochures to display in your office, please contact us at 651-646-3005. A limited number of brochures is available, so please contact us soon if you are interested.

Volunteer Lawyers Learn about Smoke-Free Housing

For the second year in a row, Live Smoke Free presented information about smoke-free multi-housing to members of the [Volunteer Lawyers Network](#). The Volunteer Lawyers Network matches low-income clients in Hennepin County with volunteer attorneys for free civil legal services.

Live Smoke Free spoke to 25 attorneys who were interested in learning about the benefits of smoke-free housing and how they might provide legal assistance to landlords and tenants on the smoke-free housing issue.

In order to continue to assist landlords and tenants in need of legal advice, Live Smoke Free maintains a list of Twin Cities attorneys interested in smoke-free housing and legal options available in the 7-county metro area. Please contact our office if you would like to learn more.

New Banners Available for Smoke-Free Buildings

Advertising is one of the main ways that landlords inform tenants about their smoke-free buildings. But advertising can be expensive! That's why we've worked to provide landlords with free signage (see "Free Signs" in the side bar) and a free directory listing on our web site.

Now there is another way for landlords to inform tenants about their smoke-free buildings! Live Smoke Free has created two banners that can be used to catch the attention of potential tenants driving by the property. Banners will be loaned, at no cost, to properties for month-long periods. Banner images are shown at the right and below.

To request the use of a banner, visit our web site or call us at 651-6464-3005.

Smoke-Free
Apartment
Building!
Units Available
Breathe
Easy!

100% Smoke-Free Apartment Building Units Available Now!

Congratulations, Smoke-Free Buildings!

The trend toward smoke-free housing in Minnesota continues to grow. There are nearly 300 smoke-free buildings listed on Live Smoke Free's online directory.

In January, two buildings implemented smoke-free policies:

- [Oakdale Village Apartments](#): Located in Oakdale, this building is managed by the Dominion Management Company and went smoke free for the new year on January 1, 2009.
- [View Pointe Apartments](#): Located in Eagan, this building is managed by At Home Apartments and went smoke free on January 31, 2009.

Live Smoke Free is also aware of six more buildings that will be implementing smoke-free policies in 2009:

- [The Pointe at River Crossing](#): Located in St. Paul, this building is managed by Steven Scott Management and will open brand new as a smoke-free building March 1, 2009.
- [Copperfield Hill](#): Located in Robbinsdale, this senior building will go smoke free April 1, 2009.
- [Waterstone Place](#): Located in Minnetonka, this building is managed by Steven Scott Management and will go smoke free April 1, 2009.
- [Montevideo HRA](#): Located in Montevideo, MN the HRA will begin providing smoke-free affordable housing on April 1, 2009.
- [Jackson HRA](#): Located in Jackson, MN the HRA will begin providing smoke-free affordable housing on July 1, 2009.
- [Grand River Estates](#): Located in St. Cloud, this building is managed by Mid-Continent Management and will open as a newly constructed smoke-free building on August 1, 2009.

We will continue to let you know about smoke-free buildings as we identify and work with them throughout the year.

National Apartment Association Explains Benefits of Smoke-Free Housing

The National Apartment Association ([NAA](#)) is no stranger to the issue of smoke-free housing. In 2007, the NAA published an [extensive article](#) in the industry magazine UNITS about the trend toward smoke-free housing. They have also published memos and policy briefings to educate their members on the issue.

In February 2009, the NAA released a property management update titled ["No-Smoking Policies in Apartments."](#) The four-page document explains the benefits of smoke-free housing and outlines some best practices for

implementing a smoke-free building policy. The article encourages multi-housing owners and managers to consider whether a smoke-free policy will work in their buildings.

Spring Conferences!

Spring is the time of year for new blossoms, rain showers, and conferences! Live Smoke Free will be exhibiting or presenting at several conferences this season. We hope to see you there!

- [Working Together](#): A conference for housing industry professionals hosted by the MN Multi-Housing Association and MN NAHRO. Dates: March 10-11
- [MN Social Service Association Conference](#): Geared toward those who work in the social service fields. Dates: March 25-26
- [NAHRO Spring Conference](#): A time to learn what's new in public housing. Dates: May 20-22

If you are aware of any conferences that we may be missing, or if you would like Live Smoke Free to speak at one of your events, please contact us!

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Live Smoke Free is currently funded to work in the Twin Cities metro area. All items in this newsletter that refer to areas around the country and outside of the Twin Cities are presented as news for your information.

Do You Know of a Smoke-Free Building?

If you are aware of a multi-unit building that has a smoke-free policy, please let us know! Buildings may be able to receive free signs, free materials, and free advertising on our web site. Forward the link below to the owner or manager of the building and ask them to click on "My Landlord Account" to list their building on our directory.

http://www.mnsmokefreehousing.org/landlords/landlord_index.html

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