

Are you being smoked out?

Clearing the air in your apartment



As more indoor and outdoor environments become smoke free, many tenants are beginning to expect that their apartments be clear of secondhand smoke drifting between units. You have the right to protect yourself and your family from a major cause of preventable death in the US, secondhand smoke. The long-term solution to secondhand smoke exposure is to live in a smoke-free building.

We can help.

Other Tenant Resources

- Housing Access Center:
(218) 722-6808
- Legal Aid Services of NE MN:
(218) 726-4800 or
www.lasnem.org
- Your city or county health department
- HOME Line Tenant Advocates hotline:
1-866-866-3546 or
www.homelinemn.org
- HUD's Multifamily Housing Complaint line:
1-800-685-8470 or
www.hud.gov
- Minnesota Attorney General:
1-800-657-3787 or
www.ag.state.mn.us

Step One: Document the Problem

1. Create a log of when you are being exposed to secondhand smoke. Try to determine the source of the secondhand smoke.
2. Make a list of solutions you have already tried.
3. Talk with your neighbors.
4. Keep track of all symptoms and illnesses. A physician's note will add legitimacy to your problem.

Step Two: Talk to the Management

1. Write a letter to your building manager or landlord explaining your problem and offering solutions.
2. Follow up by approaching your landlord to discuss the situation.
3. Provide information on the benefits of a no-smoking policy and the dangers of secondhand smoke.
4. Emphasize that building owners can legally make their buildings smoke free.