



Division of Student Affairs • 170 University Center • (715) 425-4444 • Fax (715) 425-0666

Dear UW-River Falls (UWRF) Campus Neighbors:

Effective July 1, 2013, UWRF, in collaboration with city administration, took a proactive step in maintaining a safe and healthy environment by adopting a tobacco-free campus policy. This policy prohibits the smoking and use of any tobacco products in all buildings, parking areas, and on-campus. It applies to all students, faculty, staff, and campus visitors.

According to the U.S. Surgeon General, there is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke and tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable disease in the United States. A recent survey showed that the UWRF campus was the number one location where UWRF students, faculty, and staff were exposed to secondhand smoke. The only way to prevent exposure to secondhand smoke was to prohibit its use on campus. As an institute of higher learning, UWRF is obligated to provide a healthy environment for students, faculty, and staff to live, learn, and work. Several other regional UW campuses have also adopted smoke-free or tobacco-free policies.

The UWRF Tobacco-Free Campus Implementation Committee is charged with implementing this policy effectively and efficiently. It also reviews issues as they arise and works to help resolve them. You may know that some UWRF community members have chosen to leave campus to smoke. This practice has negatively impacted some of our campus neighbors who are rightly concerned. Campus neighbors need not allow people to smoke and litter on their property. If you want a yard sign discouraging persons from smoking and littering on your property, please contact *Student Health and Counseling Services* (see below). We appreciate your help and support as we implement this important policy.

To learn more about the policy, please visit the Tobacco-Free Campus website at <http://www.uwrf.edu/tobaccofreecampus/>, which has information on the policy, boundaries, resources, and frequently asked questions. For more information or questions about the policy, contact one of the following Implementation Committee members:

Dr. Alice Reilly-Myklebust, Director, Student Health and Counseling Services
alice.m.reilly-myklebust@uwrf.edu; 715-425-3293

Dr. Keven Syverson, Health Education Coordinator, Student Health and Counseling Services
keven.syverson@uwrf.edu; 715-425-3293

Sincerely,

Gregg Heinselman
Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs