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OUR MISSION: TO PROVIDE AND PROMOTE QUALITY AFFORDABLE HOUSING & CARING SUPPORTIVE SERVICES IN COLORADO

August 3, 2018

Senior Housing Options is working closely with official from the Grand County Housing Authority to monitor and assess the air quality in Kremmling, CO.

Recent wildfires in near-by areas have caused the air quality in Grand County to pose a “moderate risk,” according to the United States Forest Service.

Grand County is currently under an Air Quality Advisory.

According to the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment the Moderate category definition is: “Air quality is acceptable; however, pollution in this range may pose a moderate health concern for a very small number of individuals. People who are unusually sensitive to ozone or particle pollution may experience respiratory symptoms.”

SHO places resident health and wellness as its top priority. Residents in its Cliffview Assisted Living and Silver Spruce Apartments are not under a mandatory evacuation at this time. However, the organization is facilitating options for those who voluntarily choose to leave.

SHO has a total of 12 low-income residences throughout the state. Our team is working to find placement at our other communities for those individuals.

The county has issued a statement encouraging individuals with heart disease, lung illnesses, and the elderly to take extra precautions.

It is our hope to have our residents back in their homes as soon as possible.

SHO is a 501(c)3 based in Denver and owns/operates six assisted living residences and six subsidized apartments in Colorado. Cliffview and Silver Spruce are owned by the Grand County Housing Authority.

Media inquiries, please contact Cait Barnett, Resource Development and Marketing Manager | 303-595-4464 ext. 14 | cbarnett@seniorhousingoptions.org.

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GRAND COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH
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Grand County Public Health Air Quality Advisory

08/02/18

Grand County Public Health, Grand County Office of Emergency Management, Grand County Housing Authority, and Grand County Manager's Office are working with the United States Forest Service monitoring the air quality in Grand County. Based on the scientific data provided by the air quality monitor in Kremmling, the risk is Moderate. According to the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment the Moderate category definition is: "Air quality is acceptable; however, pollution in this range may pose a moderate health concern for a very small number of individuals. People who are unusually sensitive to ozone or particle pollution may experience respiratory symptoms."

Public Health Recommendations: If smoke is thick or becomes thick in your neighborhood you may want to remain indoors. ***This is especially true for those with heart disease, respiratory illnesses the very young, and the elderly.*** Consider limiting outdoor activity when moderate to heavy smoke is present Consider relocating temporarily if smoke is present indoors and is making you ill. ***If visibility is less than 5 miles in smoke in your neighborhood, smoke has reached levels that are unhealthy.***

Precautions to take:

- Avoid heavy outdoor exertion such as running or other forms of exercise.
- Keep your indoor air clean and stay inside.
- Close your doors and windows and turn off systems that ventilate air from outside in, including your swamp cooler.
- You can run your air conditioner, if you have one, but keep the fresh-air intake closed and the filter clean.
- If you do not have an air conditioner and it's too warm to stay inside without your swamp cooler on or windows closed, seek shelter with a friend or family



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member with a closed air circulation system.

- Avoid activities that increase indoor pollution. You want to keep your indoor air as clean as possible.
- Do not vacuum. It stirs up dust in your home.
- Do not smoke tobacco in your home.
- Do not burn candles, fireplaces or gas stoves.
- Don't rely on dust masks for protection.
- Paper masks commonly found at hardware stores are designed to trap large particles, like sawdust. They won't protect your lungs from the small particles found in wildfire smoke.
- Contact your health care provider if you're concerned about your health.

Smoke in Grand County may stay in the area for the next 30 days due to multiple fires burning in the West. The smoke level may fluctuate hourly and daily depending on weather and fire conditions.

Grand County Public Health will monitor the air quality and update the public as conditions change. Information will be posted on the Grand County Public Health Facebook page and gcemergency.com. You can also sign up for emergency notifications with Code Red on gcemergency.com.