



Upper Story Housing

Frequently Asked Questions

Spring 2011

A New Housing Initiative in Cooperation with the Brattleboro Food Co-op

The Windham Housing Trust is working with the Brattleboro Food Co-op to build 24 mixed-income apartments on the upper two stories of their new downtown store. Here are answers to some of the questions we're receiving most often about the project:

WHAT TYPES OF APARTMENTS WILL BE OFFERED?

There are 24 apartments altogether on the third and fourth floors. There will be two two-bedroom apartments, four efficiencies, and the rest will be one-bedroom apartments. The building will be a non-smoking building.

WHAT WILL THEY LOOK LIKE?

The apartments will have a clean, open, loft-style design with high ceilings and large windows. Because they're located on the third and fourth floors, all of them will have nice views, and many will have views of the Connecticut River or Whetstone Brook. The third-floor apartments will have polished concrete floors, and those on the fourth floor will have Vermont maple floors, harvested and donated by the Vermont Land Trust, and milled for no charge by Kerber Farms Lumber Company in Guilford (actually, Pete Kerber bartered for a portion of the milled maple).

HOW ENERGY EFFICIENT IS THE NEW BUILDING?

Extremely. The apartment windows are double-glazed, the walls are insulated to R-30 and the ceilings to R-60, and the building construction is extremely tight, so there is little air infiltration. Our expectation is that all the heat and domestic hot water for the apartments will be supplied by recaptured waste heat from the Co-op's refrigeration system.

WILL THEY BE HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE?

An elevator will serve both floors, and all the apartments will be adaptable for full accessibility. Several of the apartments will already be fully accessible upon completion.

IS PARKING AVAILABLE?

There is no on-site parking for residents. There will be parking at the transportation center just a short walk away, and quarterly permits may be purchased.

CAN ANYONE APPLY FOR AN APARTMENT?

Yes. The rental rates will include some apartments using Section 8 funding (your rent is 30% of whatever your income is), most apartments will be below Windham County's rental market rate, and some will be at the local market rate.

WHEN CAN I APPLY?

You can apply at any time. A rental application can be downloaded at www.windhamhousingtrust.org, or call 254-4604 x101 to request that an application be mailed to you.

HOW CAN I GET A SENSE OF THE DIFFERENT SIZES AND LAYOUTS?

There are some sample architectural drawings at the Co-op, or you can see them online at windhamhousingtrust.org

WHEN WILL THE APARTMENTS BE AVAILABLE?

We are fairly confident they'll be move-in ready by April of next year. You can check the website or give us a call for updates.

We would like to thank Fleming Oil for the generous donation which helped to make this insert possible.





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