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**TRI CITY RENTALS RECOGNIZED AS TOBACCO-FREE CHAMPION  
The Glen at Sugar Hill honored for completely smoke-free policy**

**ALBANY, N.Y., April 2, 2010** – At its annual recognition dinner on March 24, 2010, the Capital District Tobacco-Free Coalition honored Tri City Rentals with a Tobacco-Free Champion award for creating an entirely smoke-free community at The Glen at Sugar Hill. Located in Brunswick, the 60-unit luxury apartment community was completed in 2009 and is the first Tri City apartment complex to have a 100% smoke-free policy. All residents of The Glen sign a lease which state that they and their visitors will not carry lit tobacco products anywhere on the premises, including within the residential buildings, balconies and outdoor areas.

“Our business model for The Glen at Sugar Hill, our first completely smoke-free community, was an easy decision”, said Julie Massry Knox, Sales and Marketing Manager at Tri City Rentals. “As new construction, starting out as a smoke-free apartment community presented the perfect opportunity to enter this product market. Our prospects have shown increased interest in smoke-free living and we want to provide our residents a clean and healthy place to live.”

According to a 2009 Community Survey conducted by Siena Research Institute, more than 82% of those surveyed in Albany, Rensselaer and Schenectady counties do not allow smoking anywhere inside the home and only about 17% of adults currently smoke.<sup>1</sup> As New Yorkers have become increasingly aware of the dangers of smoking and secondhand smoke, the demand for smoke-free housing has risen.

In response to this demand, Tri City made a corporate decision in 2009 to encourage all of their apartment communities to convert at least one of their buildings to a smoke-free policy. So far, 10 Tri City apartment complexes have at least one no-smoking building: The Apartments at Brunswick, The Glen at Sugar Hill, Crescent Village Apartments, Fairwood Apartments, Park Ridge Apartments, Regency Park Apartemnts and Troy Gardens Apartments, all in the Albany region and Country Club Manor in Buffalo and Rustic Village Apartments in Rochester. Many more will convert buildings to a smoke-free policy in the near future.

“Tri City has been an enthusiastic partner in providing Capital Region residents the option to live smoke-free”, said Jeanie Orr, Project Coordinator for the Capital District Tobacco-Free Coalition. “Aside from diligently working to increase the number of no-smoking units available to residents, Tri City has shown a genuine concern for the health of their residents and staff by offering smoking cessation classes and providing materials to help staff who want to quit.”

The 2010 Tobacco-Free Champions Recognition Event, which was held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Troy, honored more than 60 legislators, community advocates, business leaders, health professionals, and youth activists from throughout the Capital Region for their contributions to creating a tobacco-free community. The Capital District Tobacco-Free Coalition is a non-profit partnership of people and organizations from Albany, Rensselaer and Schenectady counties working to decrease the social acceptability of tobacco use, eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke, promote cessation and prevent the initiation of tobacco use among youth and young adults. For more information on the Coalition and its programs and a complete list of 2010 Champions, go to [www.SmokeFreeCapital.org](http://www.SmokeFreeCapital.org).

For more than 40 years, Tri City Rentals has owned and managed premier apartment communities throughout New York State. The company owns and manages 23 apartment communities in the Capital Region as well as 19 others in the Buffalo and Rochester areas. For more information, visit [www.tricityrentals.com](http://www.tricityrentals.com).

<sup>1</sup> Opinions on Smoking Issues in the Counties of Albany, Rensselaer and Schenectady: A Survey Conducted May 3 – May 5, 2009. Accessed on April 1, 2010 at [http://www.smokefreecapital.org/resources/reports.cfm#survey/CDTFCSmokingSurvvyReport\\_June09\[1\].pdf](http://www.smokefreecapital.org/resources/reports.cfm#survey/CDTFCSmokingSurvvyReport_June09[1].pdf)

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