

SELECTIVE TV
2308 S. Broadway
Alexandria MN 56308
320-763-5924
www.selectivetv.org

The number of apartments, condominiums, and assisted living units in the Alexandria area has risen dramatically in recent years. As the number of units has increased so has the number of inquiries Selective TV receives in regard to antenna issues, and the relationships between Selective TV, property owners, and tenants. In an effort to provide some clarity and to promote a working relationship that is of benefit to all concerned Selective TV is providing the following information.

All over the air channels in the Alexandria area with the exception of channels 42.1, 42.2, and 42.3 are provided by Selective TV. Selective TV was organized in 1976 by local citizens in Alexandria and surrounding areas in an effort to make more over the air channels available. At the time there was only one reliable local over the air channel. Then as now, signals from larger metropolitan areas do not reach into the Alexandria area. Through local fund raising efforts Selective TV went on the air in 1979 with 3 channels. Today Selective TV provides 60 over the air channels including all 4 major networks, public television, and a host of special interest channels. Selective TV was organized as a local non-profit organization governed by a local board of directors subject to the organizations by-laws. Selective TV operates on voluntary financial contributions received from those who use the service. It is understood that should those voluntary contributions fail to meet operating expenses Selective TV will cease to exist. The current suggested minimum contribution is \$10.00 a month per household which is considerably less than other television viewing options.

Selective TV often hears from renters who are paying a monthly fee to property owners for access to a central antenna system with the belief, or hope, that a portion of that fee is being sent to Selective TV to keep this low cost option available. A recent Nielson survey reports a 48 percent increase in over the air antenna users nationally since 2008. Obviously access to over the air television for homeowners and renters alike is very important to an ever increasing number of people.

The included copy of the FCC consumer guide makes clear the rights and responsibilities of both landlords and tenants. Please note that the OTARD rules state that the renters cost of using a central antenna system can be no greater that the cost of an individually owned antenna.

To further clarify, a property owner or landlord cannot state, infer, or actually collect money on behalf of a non-profit organization like Selective TV. That transaction can legally take place only between each tenant and Selective TV. The only exception to this would be in the case where there is a written contractual agreement between Selective TV and the property owner or landlord and where the specific terms of such an agreement are understood by the tenant. Property owners who understand and appreciate the value of the service Selective TV provides to the community and to their tenants are welcomed, and encouraged to contribute on their own behalf.

In providing this information Selective TV has 3 objectives. Increase awareness of how over the air television is made possible in the Alexandria area. Insure that everyone including renters have continued access to a local low cost television service, and finally to assist property owners and landlords in anyway we can, by providing brochures, answering questions at information sessions with tenants, or through any other means that would be helpful.

If you have questions or would like more information the Selective TV board of directors invite you to contact the Selective TV office at 320-763-5924, Monday thru Friday from 9:00AM until 1:00PM.

Thank-You,
Selective TV Board of Directors

