

Town of



# Amherst Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE TOWN MANAGER

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August 17, 2012

Dear Amherst Property Owner,

The Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative being undertaken by the Town of Amherst has identified several critical health, safety and economic development goals with regard to housing and residential neighborhoods. Among these are:

- Preserving and enhancing existing residential neighborhoods as they evolve over time in response to changing housing needs;
- Creating, preserving, and expanding a housing stock that is safe and healthy and meets the community's diverse housing needs;
- Preserving and increasing the supply of affordable housing, including both low income and workforce housing;
- Timely and effective enforcement in response to housing complaints.

In 2003 the Town of Amherst adopted the Rental Registration program through the Board of Health. In its first year, the Town of Amherst received information on approximately 700 properties; however, since then the number of rental properties registered has diminished.

As part of the Town of Amherst's Safe and Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative, the Town is seeking to update and expand the available information related to rental properties. This Initiative will help the Town better identify the number of rental properties, create a more accurate and updated database and allow us to communicate directly with property owners or local property managers.

Therefore, we are asking that property owners assist in this effort by completing the information online or using the enclosed form. As part of our commitment to this initiative, there will be no fees associated with this registration and all registration fees otherwise collected by the Board of Health for Rental Registration shall be waived until further notice.

**You can update or register rental properties, in two ways:**

1. Complete the registration form online, at [www.amherstma.gov/safeandhealthy](http://www.amherstma.gov/safeandhealthy) (recommended)
2. Complete and return the attached form to the Inspection Services Department

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jon Thompson, Code Enforcement Officer, by phone at 413-259-3117 or by email at [safeandhealthy@amherstma.gov](mailto:safeandhealthy@amherstma.gov).

Thank you for your cooperation.

John P. Musante, Town Manager

