

Office of Residential Life Smudging Policy

With respect for the University of Minnesota, Morris history as a Native American boarding school and recognizing the need and right for people to practice their own religion and spirituality with the practice of cultural activities including those of American Indians that are in accordance with the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 42, U.S.C. sections 1996 and 1996a, smudging is allowed in campus housing. Smudging is the use of smoke (generally from an organic source such as sage, sweet-grass, cedar or amber) in spiritual, religious, prayer, or faith practices. Smudging is practiced in many cultures throughout the world.

- Prior to smudging for the first time:
 - Please identify the location of the nearest fire pull station and fire extinguisher.
- Prior to smudging please communicate with your room/suite mate(s) and notify the CA, Hall Director or Coordinator of the area and building being smudged of the time and location of the smudging. Please contact the staff member in person or by phone.
- Students are expected to follow traditional cultural practices for smudging which provides a safe environment including containing embers and ashes in abalone shells, ceramic bowls, or similar items. After smudging, extinguish embers/smudge-stick appropriately to eliminate risk of fire.
- For additional information regarding smudging practices, please contact community elders or the Office of Equity, Diversity and Intercultural Programs.