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Alara in Aurora boasts countrified atmosphere

YOUR HOME | Apartments feature full-size washer, dryer

BY CELESTE BUSK

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After a long day at the office, you can often find renter Debbi Rose relaxing on her patio enjoying the bucolic ambiance of Alara at Summerfield in west suburban Aurora.

The sprawling rental complex has a beautifully and well-maintained landscape set on more than 32 acres. The countrified setting is further enhanced because this is not one huge rental building. The complex's 368 apartments are housed in two-story buildings with eight to 16 apartments in each. All of the buildings are spread throughout the scenic landscaping and all apartments have a patio or balcony for residents to take in the setting.

"The curb appeal of the community is what first attracted me," said the 52-year-old Rose. "The grounds are nicely kept and maintained and there is a feeling of privacy here. I just like to go out on the patio and sit and read and watch the birds. It's so quiet and beautiful."

Rose has lived at Alara at Summerfield for 10 months.

"I feel like I'm living in the country, especially with all the open areas on the site to relax in," Rose said.

"Apartments at the rental complex are some of the largest apartment homes in



"I like to go out on the patio and watch the birds," said Debbi Rose at Alara at Summerfield. | RICHARD A. CHAPMAN-SUN-TIMES

QUICK PEEK

What: Alara at Summerfield, Aurora

Rents: 1-3 bedrooms (dens and duplexes per plan) from \$1,015-\$1,805

Amenities: outdoor heated pool; fitness center, club house, business center, Cyber Cafe

Info: (630) 585-5900; www.rmk.com/Properties/AlaraSummerfield

the Fox Valley area," said Selena Lockwood, property manager. Apartments have 806 to 1,671 square feet of space. All of the residences have a full-size washer and dryer, large closets, French doors and private entrance. Select apartments have

wood-burning fireplaces.

Amenities include a newly remodeled clubhouse that contains a large lounging area, fitness center, business center and a Cyber Cafe.

Apartment highlights include nine-foot ceilings with decorative molding; covered patios or terraces; kitchen breakfast bars; walk-in closets and outlets for high-speed Internet access.

As for Rose, she recommends Alara to other renters. "My apartment is comfortable, the management staff is wonderful, and when I've had maintenance issues in the past they were promptly addressed.

"I also like the location," she said. "It's close to my work and near everything you can think of, restaurants, shopping and movie theaters."