Smokefree Housing Saves Lives

WHY GO SMOKEFREE?

Marketability

Only one-in-four Montana renters (26%) are protected by smokefree housing policies, but 69% of renters not currently protected by a smokefree policy would like to see their landlord adopt one.[1]

Cost Savings

Apartment turnover costs are two to seven times greater when smoking is allowed in a unit, studies show.[5]

Improved Safety

Smoking is one of the leading causes of home fire fatalities in the United States.[6]

In 2020, cigarettes caused **nearly 40 residential fires, two deaths, and $1.3 million in property loss** in Montana.[6]

SMOKEFREE HOUSING MAP

Looking for smokefree housing in your community? Want to advertise your smokefree housing facility? Visit tobaccofree.mt.gov.

Find Smokefree Housing

CONTACT

Montana Tobacco Use Prevention Program
(866) 787-5247
infotobaccofree@mt.gov
tobaccofree.mt.gov

TOBACCO SMOKE DOESN'T STAY NEXT DOOR

- Doors and walls can't stop neighbors' tobacco smoke from finding its way into surrounding units. Smoke drifts through ventilation systems, through doorways and windows, and even through electrical outlets.
- Air purifiers and ventilation systems can't prevent secondhand smoke from passing into neighboring units. The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers stated that "the only means of avoiding health effects and eliminating environmental tobacco smoke exposure is to ban all smoking activity inside and near buildings."[2]

WHERE THERE'S SMOKE, THERE'S DANGER

- The U.S. Surgeon General has concluded there is no safe level of secondhand smoke exposure.
- Secondhand tobacco smoke contains more than 7,000 chemicals, 70 of which are known to cause cancer.[3]
- Exposure to secondhand smoke increases the risk of health problems such as heart disease, respiratory problems, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), and headaches.[4]

TOBACCO RESIDUE DAMAGES HEALTH AND PROPERTIES

- Thirdhand smoke is the residue from tobacco smoke and e-cigarette aerosol that remains in the environment after the product has been used. This residue clings to furniture, drapes, walls, carpet and many other surfaces and builds up over time.[7]
- People and pets can be exposed to thirdhand smoke through ingestion, absorption, or inhalation as the chemicals release into the air.[8] Similar to secondhand smoke, thirdhand smoke increases the risk of heart disease, respiratory problems, and SIDS.[9]
- Thirdhand smoke decreases property value and renter appeal. Removing the residue takes time and is costly.

THIRDHAND SMOKE PROPERTY DAMAGE





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SOURCES

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MONETARY IMPACTS ON HOUSING PROVIDERS[10]

COSTS TO REHABILITATE A UNIT

	No Smoking	Light Smoking	Heavy Smoking
General Cleaning	$270	$500	$720
Paint	$170	$225	$480
Flooring	$50	$950	$1,425
Appliances	$60	$75	$490
Bathroom	$40	$60	$400
Total	$560	$1,810	$3,515

SMOKEFREE HOUSING POLICIES ARE LEGAL

- There is no Montana or federal law that prohibits a landlord from making an entire building or property smokefree. In fact, having a smokefree policy may protect you from the risk of some legal violations such as warrant of habitability or covenant of quiet enjoyment.

FREE ASSISTANCE AND RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE

- The Montana Tobacco Use Prevention Program (MTUPP) can help implement or request a smokefree policy on the property.
- Model lease addendum language, free smokefree property signs, compliance and enforcement tips, and free Quit Now Montana promotional materials are available at tobaccofree.mt.gov.
- You can access a free online course about the importance of smokefree housing at tobaccofree.mt.gov.
- The Tobacco Education Specialist (TES) in your community can assist with the steps of promoting or implementing a smokefree policy. Find your local TES by contacting your county or tribal health department.
- Smokefree housing signage is available to order for free through MTUPP's online store.



FREE MATERIALS