

# 5 REASONS TO GO SMOKEFREE

#1



## Smokefree housing policies protect your investment.

Smokefree policies are legal and are not discriminatory. Making your properties smokefree can reduce your costs, risk and liability. Residents with health issues that are caused by or worsened by secondhand smoke exposure may pursue legal action against property owners or managers if appropriate steps are not taken to resolve the problem. (1)

#2



## Smokefree environments reduce health risks.

There is no risk-free level of secondhand smoke exposure and the only way to prevent exposure is by eliminating smoking. Smokefree housing policies protect tenants, staff, and guests from more than 7,000 chemicals in secondhand smoke; 70 of which are known to cause cancer. (2)

#3



## Smoking increases the risk of property damage.

Smoking in units can lead to burn marks on the counters, yellow walls, trashed carpets, odor, and house fires. Property damage from smoking is hard to clean and can make units less attractive to new renters. Apartment turnover costs are up to 7 times greater when smoking is allowed inside. (3)

#4



## Most Montanans want smokefree housing.

Seventy percent of Montana renters are in favor of smokefree policies. Smokefree housing policies can help retain your current residents and even attract new ones. Many people want their homes to be smokefree to protect their health and belongings and are in search of smokefree options. (1) (4)

#5



## Free assistance and resources are available to you.

Local smokefree housing experts can provide you the tools you need to put a policy in place and carry it out. Contact your county or tribal Tobacco Prevention Specialist for assistance; they can supply model policy language, free signs, and other resources. Visit [tobaccofree.mt.gov](http://tobaccofree.mt.gov) for more information.

### Sources:

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3. U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Control. Smokefree Housing: A Toolkit for Owners/Management Agents of Federally Assisted Public and Multi-family Housing. <https://www.hud.gov/sites/documents/pdfowners.pdf>. January, 2012.
4. Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services. Montana Adult Tobacco Survey, 2018.



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