Benefits of Smoke-free Housing for Property Owners and Managers

Reduce costs and turn-over time.

Cleaning and refurbishing a unit can cost up to $3,000 more than a smoke-free unit.

Save on insurance premiums.

Some insurance companies offer reduced rates to buildings with smoke-free policies.

Smoke-free buildings reduce the risk, costs and liability associated with fires.[1]

80% of Missourians do not smoke[2] and most renters, including people who smoke, would choose smoke-free housing if given the choice.[1,3]

Smoke-free policies are easy to enforce and can be enforced like any other lease violation.[4]

Smoke-free leases are legal.[1]

Smoke-free buildings are for everyone. People who smoke are still welcome to live in the building, they just have to take the smoke outdoors to a designated area.

Your Property

+ **Secondhand and thirdhand smoke damage your property** and increase maintenance, cleaning and insurance costs.[1]
+ **Secondhand smoke travels between units** through doorways, cracks in walls, electrical lines, ventilation systems and plumbing.[5]
+ **Thirdhand smoke is the residue left behind from cigarette smoke** and cannot be removed through normal cleaning methods.
+ **It contains 250 chemicals and sticks to dust, carpets, upholstery, walls, hair, clothes, pets' fur and feathers.** The toxic chemicals left behind can re-emit and off gas back into the air. It cannot be removed through routine cleaning methods and can remain months after smoking has stopped.[6,7]
+ **Allowing smoking in the building increases risk of fire.** Most residential fire deaths are caused by cigarettes.[1]

Your Tenants

Exposing residents to secondhand smoke opens property owners to legal action from residents who experience health issues as a result of the exposure.[1]

1 out of 3 people who don't smoke and live in rental housing are exposed to secondhand smoke.[2]

Children living in multiunit housing have higher blood levels of cotinine, a marker of tobacco exposure, even when they live with caregivers who do not smoke.[3]

There is no safe level of secondhand smoke.

Children, the elderly, people with disabilities and pregnant women are particularly vulnerable to the health risks associated with secondhand smoke.[3]

2 out of 5 children are exposed to secondhand smoke. Most children are exposed in the home.[1]

Children exposed to tobacco smoke are at risk for asthma, lung problems, earaches and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).[3]

Adults are at risk for heart disease, stroke and lung cancer.[1]

Babies and children are particularly vulnerable to thirdhand smoke, the residue left behind from smoking, when they crawl on contaminated floors or put contaminated items in their mouth.[4]

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