

Twenty Reasons to Implement a Smoke-Free Policy for Your Properties



GOOD FOR BUSINESS, GOOD FOR HEALTH

1. Reduces the cleaning, repair, painting, furniture replacement, and other maintenance or administrative costs.
2. Renovating units where smoking takes place can cost between \$5,000 and \$15,000. Smoke-free units are much more economical and cost between \$500 to \$2,500 to renovate (American Lung Association study). Smoke-free units are much more economical and cost less to turn.
3. May lower insurance premiums through a comprehensive fire-safe policy.
4. Less damage caused by tobacco smoke and discarded cigarettes.
5. It is easier to rent or sell smoke-free homes.
6. Saves management and staff time dealing with smoking-related complaints and issues.
7. May reduce the risk of lawsuits by people affected by exposure to secondhand smoke, and fair housing and disability complaints.
8. Free resources are available including signs, model policies, implementation and compliance tips.
9. Decrease air-filtration and labor costs by up to 30% (estimates by the Marriott® Hotels).
10. Obtain a free listing for your property at mysmokefreehousing.com.
11. Cigarette fires in Colorado cause roughly 5% of all residential fires in Colorado, 36% of all residential fire fatalities, 14% of all residential fire injuries, and 7% of all residential property loss.
12. The Colorado Clean Indoor Air Act allows housing providers to adopt smoke-free policies. HUD requires or encourages smoke-free policies.
13. Most adults in Colorado — 84.8% — do not smoke. 63.5% of Coloradans think that smoking in multiunit residential buildings should not be allowed, according to a statewide survey.
14. Colorado residents are accustomed to smoke-free policies at work and in bars, restaurants, and public places; they expect the same protection from secondhand smoke in their housing.
15. Protects the health of residents, staff, and maintenance personnel.
16. There is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke.
17. No-smoking policies help people who are trying to quit smoking succeed.
18. Reduces the most common resident health issues associated with exposure to secondhand smoke after policy implementation. (American Lung Association study).
19. There is no Constitutional right to smoke, and no-smoking policies do not violate the Fair Housing Act.
20. More than 7,500 apartments and condominiums in Colorado have adopted no-smoking policies covering all indoor areas, units, balconies, and porches, according to mysmokefreehousing.com.

For smoke-free housing resources and tips, visit mysmokefreehousing.org or call GASP at 303-444-9799

The Colorado Group to Alleviate Smoking Pollution (GASP) is a 501(c)(3) statewide nonprofit organization founded in 1977. Through education and policy change, GASP works to save lives through actions to eliminate exposure to secondhand smoke at work, in public places, and in multiunit housing. No one should be forced to breathe secondhand smoke, whether it is from tobacco or marijuana smoking or the aerosols emitted by electronic smoking devices.