

Why Go Smoke Free?

Attract Residents

Only 6% of Davidson County residents say they would find a new place to live or hire a lawyer if their community went smoke free. Most people prefer a smoke-free environment. Only 29% of apartment residents in Davidson County smoke cigarettes. In fact, most residents, including some who smoke, already have a no-smoking policy in their home.

Prevent Fires

Smoking is one of the leading causes of fires in the U.S., and apartments account for a larger share of smoking-related fires than other types of homes.² An estimated **7,600** smoking related fires occur in residential buildings each year in the U.S.³

Save Money

Save up to five times in turnover costs. Restoring a smoking home can cost **\$4,000-\$8,000** while average costs for a non-smoking home are **\$500-\$1,500**.¹

Cleaner Air

Up to 65% of air can recirculate between homes. **No cleaning or ventilation can control health risks from secondhand smoke.**⁵ The only means of effectively eliminating the health risk associated with exposure is to ban smoking.⁶

Healthier Homes

Each year in the U.S. secondhand smoke causes disease and **nearly 50,000 deaths** from heart disease, lung cancer and sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS). Secondhand smoke exposure is also now known to cause strokes in nonsmokers.⁴

It's Legal

No-smoking policies are not discriminatory and do not violate fair-housing regulations because **people who smoke are not a protected class** according to federal or state law.

It's Easier Than You Think

Surveys of owners found that time spent dealing with smoking-related complaints was reduced following a smoke-free policy. The study also noted that owners experienced little difficulty enforcing the policy.⁷

¹ Property Management Insider. "The High Costs of Allowing Smoking in Apartments." 2012, July 13. <http://www.propertymanagementinsider.com/the-high-cost-of-allowing-smoking-in-apartments>

² U.S. Fire Administration. "Residential Smoking Fires and Casualties." 2005

³ U.S. Fire Administration. Smoking-related fires in residential building (2008-2010), June 2012.

⁴ GASP Colorado. Colorado Guides to Establishing No-Smoking Policies in Multiunit Housing. 2014. www.gaspforair.org/breath/action/pdf/GASPBrochure2014.pdf.

⁵ American Society of Heating, Refrigeration & Air-Conditioning Engineers. "Environmental Tobacco Smoke: Position Document." 2008. www.ashare.org

⁶ Office on Smoking and Health, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Tobacco Smoke: A Report of the Surgeon General." 2006. www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/secondhandsmoke/

⁷ South Dakota University. "Smoke-free Policies Benefit Apartment Dwellers, Owners." 26 August 2015. <http://medicalxpress.com/news/2015-08-smoke-free-policies-benefit-apartment-dwellers.html>



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