

## SECOND-HAND SMOKE FACTS

Second-hand smoke is the smoke from the burning end of a cigarette, cigar, or pipe and smoke exhaled by the smoker.

- Since 1979 the U.S. Surgeon General has reported on the health hazards of second-hand smoke.
- Like asbestos, tobacco smoke is a class A carcinogen. This means it causes cancer in humans. **There is no safe level of exposure.** *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*
- As little as 30 minutes of exposure to tobacco smoke can have serious effects to those with heart disease. *British Medical Jnl2004*
- Studies show that nonsmokers exposed to smoke are more likely to develop respiratory and heart diseases.
- Children exposed to tobacco smoke are at increased risk of asthma, ear infections, respiratory infections and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

### Potential Liability for Smoke Drift

The law requires that landlords warrant their rental property be fit for habitation. Tenants can argue in court that secondhand smoke renders their unit unfit for habitation.

## YOUR STEPS TO A SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT

1. **Consider options that have been successful:**
  - **100% Smoke-free**
  - **Current tenants** - give 30 days notice or grandfathered in until their lease renews.
  - **Smoke-free for new tenants**
  - **Designated smoking area *outside* & at least 25 feet from doorway**
  - **100% Smoke-free *outside* areas**
2. **Develop a written policy to explain:**
  - **Why** you are restricting smoking
  - **When** the policy becomes effective
  - **How** you will deal with “incidents”
  - **Help** is available to smokers who want to quit.
3. **Develop a plan to notify residents and employees.**
4. **Post “Thank you for not smoking” signs.**
5. **Treat smoking like any other lease violation.**

## WE CAN HELP

Free consultation is available to help you develop an effective policy for your housing.

### We have free

- Sample policies
- Information on the health hazards of smoking and of non-smokers breathing second-hand smoke
- “Thank you for not smoking” decals
- “Help to quit smoking” - telephone coaching for tenants and employees
- “Help to quit” group programs at your location

**Call:** Keystone Wellness Programs  
**724-432-3474**

### E-mail:

Karina@KeystoneWellnessPrograms.org

**Check our website** for more information:  
[www.KeystoneWellnessPrograms.org](http://www.KeystoneWellnessPrograms.org)



## Did you know?

- The majority of residents prefer smoke-free living.
- 82% of the population of the U.S. do not smoke.
- Fires from smoking materials cause more expensive property damage than most other types of fires. *Hartford Insurance Company*
- Smoking materials are the leading cause of fire deaths in the U.S. *FireSafety.gov*
- Federal laws that can be used by a resident to address smoke transfer are the Federal Rehabilitation Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Federal Fair Housing Act.

Keystone Wellness Programs will publicly honor any building that is Smoke Free.

You will receive a certificate to display regarding your new Smoke-Free environment!

Contact us at:  
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Evans City, PA 16033  
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## YOUR STEPS TO SMOKE-FREE HOUSING

**A smoke-free environment makes good business sense. It protects the health of employees and residents by eliminating exposure to tobacco smoke. It also reduces turn over cost, turn over time and fire risk.**

