

Smoking in Your Building is Expensive...

A recent study found that costs in properties that allow smoking everywhere were **nearly double** that of smoking-related costs incurred at smoke-free properties.⁴

Compared to smoke-free units, cleaning and refurbishing costs can be up to \$3,000 greater in units with heavy smoking.⁵ Nationally, smoking related fires result in over \$300 million in property loss each year.⁶

...and Dangerous!

Allowing smoking in your building can increase the risk of fire. Annually, an estimated 7,600 smoking-related fires occur in residential buildings in the US.⁶

Fires caused by smoking are the leading cause of fire deaths, account-

ing for 14% of fire deaths in residential buildings.⁶ People who smoke are not the only victims of smoking-related fires. Casualties of smoking-related fires often include the children, friends, pets and neighbors of the people who caused the fire.⁷



Smoking-related fires result in over \$300

Do you need more information?
Educational resources about smoke-free housing are available at:

Tobacco Free Larimer County

www.larimersmokefreeliving.org

For more information on smoke-free housing:

Tobacco Free Larimer County

www.larimer.org/tobacco

Phone: 970-498-6752

Group to Alleviate Smoking Pollution (GASP) of Colorado

www.mysmokefreehousing.org

Americans for Nonsmokers' Rights:

www.no-smoke.org/homes.html

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development:

<http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/smokefreetoolkits1>

Smoke-free Environments Law Project:

<http://www.tcsg.org/sfelp/home.htm>

U.S. Fire Administration / FEMA:

<http://www.usfa.fema.gov/campaigns/smoking/>

Smoke-free Policies in Multiunit Housing

Good for Business. Good for Health.

TobaccoFree
LARIMER COUNTY

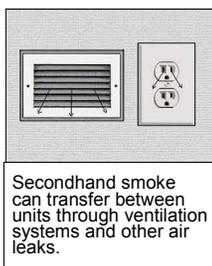
Moving toward a healthier community

www.larimersmokefreeliving.org

Secondhand Smoke Can Transfer in Buildings

According to the U.S. Surgeon General, there is no safe level of secondhand smoke exposure.¹ Eliminating indoor sources of secondhand smoke is the only way to protect non-smokers from the harmful effects of tobacco smoke.

Even if multiunit housing residents don't smoke, secondhand smoke can still enter into their units through vents, doors, windows, and shared hallways.



Among the 1,200,000 multiunit housing residents living in Colorado, it is estimated that 448,000–470,000 of them are involuntarily exposed to secondhand smoke in their unit.²

A recent survey of Fort Collins, Colorado multiunit housing residents found that the majority (96%) did not allow smoking inside their unit. However, about half of these individuals reported experiencing secondhand smoke infiltrating into their unit from elsewhere in or around the building.³

Additionally, nearly half of the residents surveyed reported also experiencing secondhand smoke exposures in hallways and stairwells.³

Retain your Current Residents



if it were designated as smoke-free.³

In fact, many of these residents indicated that they would be willing to give up other amenities in order to live in a smoke-free building, such as a shorter commute time to work and other local services.³

Attract New Residents

A recent survey of Fort Collins, CO multiunit housing residents found that about 60% would prefer to have a policy in their building that prohibited smoking in all indoor areas. However, only 34% of residents in this survey reported living in a smoke-free building.³ Over 80% of all adults in Colorado do not smoke.⁸ Therefore, smoke-free buildings are likely to appeal to a wider range of potential residents in your market.

Clearly, there is high support and a need for smoke-free living which could result in a large market opportunity for smoke-free multiunit housing operators. **Smoke-free housing is good for business and good for health!**

Over 90% of Fort Collins, CO apartment residents who currently reside in smoking-allowable buildings indicated that they would **not** move out of their current residence



"No-smoking policies in multiunit housing are good for health and good for business. These policies protect residents and staff from the dangers of secondhand smoke, reduce maintenance costs, and reduce the risk of fires."

Pete Bialick
Group to Alleviate Smoking Pollution (GASP)

Smoke-free Policies are Legal!

The Colorado Clean Indoor Air Act (CCIAA) **requires** that common areas of multiunit housing facilities to be smokefree, including (but not limited to) lobbies, stairwells, hallways, and elevators. The CCIAA also allows landlords and building owners to implement 100% smoke-free policies.

A recent survey found that 57% of Fort Collins multiunit housing residents lived in a building **without** any rules regarding smoking.³ This suggests it may be necessary to educate the public on existing CCIAA policies related to multiunit housing facilities.

Smoke-free building policies can also **limit your liability** as a landlord. Residents with health issues that are caused by or exacerbated by secondhand smoke could pursue legal action against their landlord if appropriate steps are not taken to resolve the problem.⁹

References:

¹ <http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/reports/secondhandsmoke/factsheet7.html>;

² King BA et al. Nicotine & Tobacco Research, 2013; 15(7):1316-1321;

³ Roswell Park Cancer Institute. Preferences and practices regarding secondhand smoke exposure and smoke-free policies in multi-unit housing: A survey of multi-unit housing residents living in Fort Collins, Colorado, 2012.

⁴ Ong MK et al. American Journal of Public Health, 2012; 102(3):490-493.

⁵ nchh.org/Portals/0/Contents/NCHH_Green_Factsheet_smokefree.pdf.

⁶ US Fire Administration. Smoking-related fires in residential buildings (2008-2010), June, 2012.

⁷ <http://www.usfa.fema.gov/campaigns/smoking/cbo/index.shtm>

⁸ http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/data_statistics/state_data/state_highlights/2010/pdfs/states/colorado.pdf

⁹ <http://www.tcsgrg.org/sfelp/home.htm>