Twenty Reasons to Make Your Properties Smoke-Free

GOOD FOR BUSINESS, HEALTH, AND RETENTION

1. **Smoke-free units are much more economical and cost less to turn.** Renovating units where smoking takes place costs between $8,000 and $25,000, compared to $1,500 to 4,000 to renovate smoke-free units. A smoking unit typically takes **three to five times longer to turn over**, resulting in substantial lost rental income. (Google Gemini 3 Pro).

2. **Most adults in Colorado — 90% — do not smoke**. 53% of Coloradans think that smoking in multiunit residential buildings should not be allowed, according to a statewide survey. **Smoke-free policies may help establish better retention since most Coloradans do not smoke.**

3. **More than 14,000 apartments and condominiums** in Colorado have adopted no-smoking policies covering all indoor areas, units, balconies, and porches, according to mysmokefreehousing.com.

4. **Obtain a free listing** for your property at mysmokefreehousing.com.

5. **It is easier to rent or sell smoke-free homes**.

6. **Free resources** are available including signs, model policies, implementation and compliance tips.

7. 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.

8. **Reduces the cleaning, repair, painting, furniture replacement**, and other maintenance or administrative costs.

9. **Decrease air-filtration and labor costs** by up to 30% (estimates by the Marriott® Hotels).

10. Less damage caused by tobacco smoke and discarded cigarettes.

11. Saves management and staff time dealing with smoking-related complaints and issues.

12. May lower insurance premiums through a comprehensive fire-safe policy.

13. May reduce the risk of lawsuits by people affected by exposure to secondhand smoke, and fair housing and disability complaints.

14. Cigarette fires in Colorado cause roughly **5% of all residential fires** in Colorado, 23% of all residential fire fatalities, 10% of all residential fire injuries, and 7% of all residential property loss. Smoking remains the **leading cause of home fire deaths** in Colorado.

15. **There is no safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke**.

16. Protects the health of residents, staff, and maintenance personnel.

17. Smoke-free 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 2014).

19. The Colorado Clean Indoor Air Act allows housing providers to adopt smoke-free policies. HUD requires or encourages smoke-free policies.

20. There is no Constitutional right to smoke, and no-smoking policies do not violate the Fair Housing Act.

For smoke-free housing resources and tips, visit mysmokefreehousing.org

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 though 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.