

LOCAL SUCCESS STORY

We asked Plumas County Community Development Commission Housing Director Susan Merriman, who successfully adopted a smoke-free policy at Wildwood Village in Chester back in 2002, for a few tips on implementing a new policy. Here's what she said.



1. Provide areas that are out of the elements for tenants who smoke. Try to pick a spot that's well lit for safety.
2. Don't view a smoking violation as any less of a violation of the lease.
3. Don't shy away from enforcing the provisions of the lease, but be sure to give any violators fair warning.

Call Plumas County Public Health Agency to learn more about adopting a smoke-free policy. (530) 283-7099.

SMOKE-FREE MULTI-UNIT HOUSING



CREATING HEALTHIER LIVING ENVIRONMENTS



SMOKE-FREE FACTS

- There is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke
- Exposed adults can experience adverse effects on their cardiovascular systems and develop lung cancer and heart disease
- Millions of Americans can be exposed to secondhand smoke in their homes, despite current tobacco control measures
- Exposed children are more likely to suffer sudden infant death syndrome, acute respiratory infections, more severe asthma, and ear problems
- Smoking increases cleaning and maintenance costs significantly, estimated at three times the cost
- Smoking significantly increases fire hazard, often upping the price of insurance

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). 2006. *The health consequences of involuntary exposure to tobacco smoke: a report of the Surgeon General*. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Office on Smoking and Health

POSITIVE RESULTS OF SMOKE-FREE POLICIES

- Creates cleaner, healthier surroundings
- Reduces tenant complaints
- Encourages residents who smoke to quit
- Reduces fire risks
- Reduces cleaning and upkeep expenses of units/complex
- May reduce insurance rates
- Can improve resale value
- Can result in tax benefit



Talking points from (California Department of Public Health/ California Tobacco Control Program 2009)