SMOKE-FREE HOUSING:

A BLUEPRINT TO GOING SMOKE-FREE

#1

DEVELOP THE NO-SMOKING POLICY

- Decide where smoking is not allowed. A 100 percent smoke-free rule applies to indoor and outdoor common areas and all units, including private decks and patios. And it has the biggest impact on reducing cleanup costs, fires and health risks.
- Write lease language. Include:
 - What the policy covers.
 - Who it applies to (residents, guests, staff, etc.).
 - The definition of smoking.
 - Effective dates.
 - Consequences for violations



2

COMMUNICATE WITH RESIDENTS

- Current residents: Send notification letters that explain the importance of smoke-free housing, what the policy covers and effective dates.
- Prospective residents:
 Advertise your property
 as smoke-free; explain to
 residents before lease signing.



#3

APPLY THE RULE



- Current leases: Add the rule at lease renewal, or by giving at least 30-days notice.
- New leases: Include the rule in all new leases.
- Month-to-month leases:
 Give at least 30-days notice
 before the change.



ENFORCE THE RULE

- Post clear signs for residents and visitors.
- Respond promptly to complaints about violations.
- Enforce the rule as you would any lease violation.



Washington landlords say going smoke-free is good for business¹:

- **95** percent say they are satisfied with their decision to go smoke-free.
- **92 percent** report no effect on turnover rates.

92 percent

of Washington renters prefer smoke-free housing.²

Visit SMOKEFREEWASHINGTON.COM

for practical tips and tools to go smoke-free, including:

- Facts about secondhand
- Sample lease language.
- Sample handout and notification letter.
- Sample warning letter.
- Information about the benefits of smoke-free housing.
- Testimonials from landlords who have gone smoke-free.



¹ Washington State Owner and Property Manager Survey, Washington Stat Department of Health, 2012

² Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, Washington State, 2010