

# Myths About Smokefree Living



A few common myths need to be dispelled and this manual will shed new light and provides solid information on important topics including the following:

## MYTHS

VS

## TRUTHS

Landlords cannot legally prevent tenants from smoking inside their units.

Smokefree policies are legal.

See page 8

Most renters and potential renters in my market are smokers.

Less than 17% of Oklahomans smoke<sup>3</sup>, and many smokers would support a smokefree policy.

Read the statistics on page 7

Secondhand smoke really isn't very harmful.

Secondhand smoke kills.

Read more about the harmful effects on page 15

Most smoke can be easily contained in a smoker's unit, and the part that may infiltrate other units doesn't matter.

Secondhand smoke spreads into nonsmoking apartments in many ways.

Learn more on page 15

Most renters don't care about smoking policies or will willingly share a building.

Actually, 87% of Oklahomans agree that apartment and condominium complexes should provide the option of smoke-free buildings.<sup>1</sup>

See page 5

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# MYTHS

VS

# TRUTHS

A nonsmoking policy would be difficult to implement and enforce.

A nonsmoking policy is just as easy to implement as any other.

See page 23

Smokers will not support a new policy, and I may lose tenants.

Smokers support smokefree policies too.

Survey data is available on page 5

## Smokefree Policies

The overwhelming majority of housing tenants prefer nonsmoking apartments; a fact that can be seen in countless studies and surveys. A significant percentage would even pay more to live in smokefree housing. **If all public housing in Oklahoma was made smokefree, this is what would be saved:**

**\$2.25 MILLION EACH YEAR<sup>5</sup>**

INCLUDING

**\$1 MILLION**

in costs from cleaning apartments where people have smoked<sup>5</sup>

**\$200 THOUSAND**

in costs from fires caused by smoking<sup>5</sup>

Happy tenants are good for business. What makes even more business sense is the money you'll save. With a smokefree property, you won't have to waste hundreds of hours and thousands of dollars on maintenance. You'll also reduce health and fire risks that could leave you legally and financially vulnerable. When you implement a smokefree policy, you'll not only be taking care of business, but you will be protecting the health of others and saving money.