

# Breathe Easy

## Smoke-Free Apartments, Condos and Townhomes

### Other Resources

- Residential Tenancies Act, 2006
- Condominium Act, 1998
- [www.smokefreehome.com](http://www.smokefreehome.com)
- The Ontario Landlord and Tenant Board at 1-800-332-3234 or [www.itb.gov.on.ca](http://www.itb.gov.on.ca)
- Smoke-Free Housing Ontario [www.smokefreehousingon.ca](http://www.smokefreehousingon.ca)

#### References

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U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (2006). The Health Consequences of Involuntary Exposure to Second-Hand Smoke: A Report of the Surgeon General.



Durham Health Connection Line  
1-800-841-2729 or 905-666-6241  
[durham.ca](http://durham.ca)

Information available in accessible formats.

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## Information for Landlords

## What is Second-Hand Smoke?

There is no safe level of second-hand smoke. Second-hand smoke is the smoke that is blown into the air, and the smoke that enters the air from the burning end of a cigarette. There are more than 7000 chemicals in second-hand smoke and more than 69 of these can cause cancer.

There are many ways that smoke gets into other people's homes:

- Through open doors and windows (from a patio or balcony)
- Through outlets, cracks, gaps, cable or phone jacks, and ceiling fixtures
- Through shared vents



## Why Would I Want to Make My Units Smoke-Free?

There is a Demand	80% of people living in Ontario do not smoke and want smoke-free housing.
To Save Money	It costs less money to turn over a non-smoking unit.
Better Re-Sale Value	Smoke-free units have higher re-sale prices.
Reduce the Risk of Fire	Cigarettes are the #1 ignition source of fatal fires.



## What are My Rights as a Landlord?

You have a right to designate your building as non-smoking. You have a right to protect your property.

## How Do I Make My Building Non-Smoking?

- Step 1: Strike a committee or working group
- Step 2: Conduct a tenant survey
- Step 3: Develop the policy
- Step 4: Develop a communications strategy
- Step 5: Develop an enforcement plan
- Step 6: Implement the no-smoking building policy

Call Durham Region Health Department at 1-800-841-2729. Staff are available to help you make your building non-smoking.

