



## TALKING ABOUT THE MONTANA CLEAN INDOOR AIR ACT *A Guide for Business Owners, Operators, and Managers*

### **Become Informed**

- Read and download the full language of the law at:  
[http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca\\_toc/50\\_40.htm](http://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca_toc/50_40.htm)
- Read and download the administrative rules at:  
<http://www.mtrules.org/gateway/Subchapterhome.asp?scn=37.113.1>
- Meet with your local Tobacco Prevention Specialist, Sanitarian, and other local public health officials to understand their protocol for compliance.

### **Set the Stage**

- Meet with your employees to explain your business's strategy for helping customers feel comfortable about the law.
- It is important that employees project a positive and inclusive attitude about going smokefree: "Customers who smoke are welcome, but they must smoke outside."
- Offer information about the Montana Tobacco Quit Line to employees who smoke. Free help is available by calling toll-free to 1-800-QUIT NOW.
- Tell your customers about the widespread support for the law. The vast majority of Montanans favor it.
- Discuss the benefits to your business:
  - This protection is for everyone, including smokers.
  - Since the risk of fire is reduced, fire insurance may cost 25-30% less for a smokefree business.
  - Cleaning costs may be significantly reduced.
  - Many insurance companies offer discounts on life, disability, and health insurance for nonsmokers.
  - Employees who work in a smokefree environment typically miss fewer work shifts due to illness than those who do not.
- Review your business policies for dealing with problem customers and encourage your employees to follow these same policies with anyone who smokes inside your establishment. (Past experience shows a kind reminder is normally all that's needed.)
- Share the materials available to your employees.
  - Explain to them your requirements for posting signage at all public entrances.
  - Review your plan for removing and discarding ashtrays from your business.

### **Keep Your Customers Informed**

- Inform customers in advance that your establishment is smokefree.

- Post signs and encourage your employees to discuss being smokefree in a positive manner with patrons, especially with your regular customers.

**Steps for Your Business's Smokefree Status:**

- Post no-smoking signs at all public entrances. (Required by law)
- Remove and discard all ashtrays from your business.

Celebrate Smokefree Montana! Our Health Depends On It!