

Maine Smoke-Free Multi-Unit Housing Policy Checklist

Creating smoke-free multi-unit housing policies is a win-win situation for landlords and tenants as it reduces exposure to secondhand smoke, reduces property damage and fire risks, and reduces unit turnover costs. The checklist aligns with the Sample Smoke-Free Policy and Lease Language and is broken down by required components for a model policy and recommended additions to make the policy more comprehensive. Housing organizations can order free smoke-free signs to support their policy at BreatheEasyMaine.org/Materials

Model Policy Components:

A model smoke-free housing policy prohibits the smoking of any lighted cigarette, cigar, hookah, electronic smoking device or other tobacco product, marijuana, or illegal substance in any area of the property, both private and common, whether enclosed or outdoors. Policies apply to all owners, tenants, guests, employees, and servicepersons.

To have a model policy, it must include:

- Policy **rationale** (statement about why the policy has been enacted).
- Policy **states where smoking is prohibited**.
- Policy language **states who the policy applies to**.
- Policy includes the **effective date** (highlighting when the policy has been enacted).
- Policy language includes a **definition of smoking**.
- Policy includes a **statement related to enforcement**.

Recommended Policy Inclusions:

The following components are recommended inclusions:

- Policy includes planned **communications strategies** (such as posting smoke-free/tobacco-free signs).
- Policy language includes a **definition of tobacco products**, which explicitly includes smoked, smokeless, and electronic products.
- Policy definitions of smoking and/or tobacco include **marijuana**.

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REDUCING SMOKE EXPOSURE IN MAINE

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