

Excerpt from:

Making Your Workplace Smoke-free: A Decision Maker's Guide.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Office on Smoking and Health
Wellness Councils of America
American Cancer Society

Benefits of a Tobacco-Free Worksite Policy

For Employees

- A tobacco-free environment helps create a safe, healthful workplace.
- A well-planned and carefully implemented effort by the employer to address the effects of tobacco on employees' health and the health of their families shows the company cares.
- Workers who are bothered by tobacco will not be exposed to it at the worksite.
- Tobacco users appreciate a clear company policy about smoking or using smokeless tobacco at work.
- Managers are relieved when a process for dealing with tobacco in the workplace is clearly defined.

For the Employer

- A tobacco-free environment helps create a safe, healthful workplace.
- Direct health care costs to the company may be reduced.
- Maintenance costs go down when smoke, matches, and cigarette butts are eliminated in facilities.
- Office equipment, carpets, and furniture last longer.
- It may be possible to negotiate lower health, life, and disability coverage because employee tobacco use is reduced.
- The risk of fire is lower.