

## Making Your Business Smoke-Free

The Nebraska Smoke-Free Air Law goes into effect on June 1, 2009. As a result, all indoor workspaces and public places in the state will become smoke-free.

The law protects employees and customers alike from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke. In addition to the health benefits, there are business benefits as well:

- Direct health care costs to your company may go down.
- Maintenance costs go down when smoke, matches and cigarette butts are not in the workplace.
- You may receive lower health, life and disability insurance rates as employee smoking is reduced.
- Equipment, carpets and furniture last longer.

You may be wondering though, how to prepare your work force for the law.

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services has created [www.smokefree.ne.gov](http://www.smokefree.ne.gov), as the go-to Website for all information related to the law's implementation.

When on the site, click on "Resources" and download paycheck stuffers and break room posters to help inform your employees about the law. If you have an employee or customer newsletter, there are ads in a variety of sizes for your use. Brochures, an FAQ, factsheets and the law can be found on the site as well.

Many items are available in both English and Spanish and include information about the Nebraska Tobacco Quitline, a free telephone support service that's available 24/7 for people ready to quit tobacco. The Quitline can be reached by calling 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669).

Hospitality businesses can also get coasters for their use. If you haven't received a supply already, call 1-877-633-7331 or send an e-mail to [smoke.free@dhhs.ne.gov](mailto:smoke.free@dhhs.ne.gov). Feel free to call or e-mail with any other questions you might have as well.

**Web:**  
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877-777-0424

