

# Frequently Asked Questions

When does the new Lafayette smoke free ordinance go into effect?

The new ordinance goes into effect on September 1, 2008.

How will I know if an establishment is exempt from the ordinance and therefore allows smoking?

The City of Lafayette is compiling a database of businesses based on their smoking policy. This database can be accessed on the City of Lafayette's website, [www.lafayette.in.gov](http://www.lafayette.in.gov).

What is secondhand smoke?

Secondhand smoke is a mixture of the smoke given off by the burning end of a cigarette, pipe or cigar, and the smoke exhaled from the lungs of smokers. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reports that secondhand smoke contains more than 4,000 substances, more than 50 of which are known to cause cancer in humans and animals.

What are the effects of secondhand smoke?

The EPA estimates that secondhand smoke causes up to 53,000 deaths each year among nonsmokers in the U.S. An estimated 300,000 children nationwide develop lower respiratory infections each year as a result of secondhand smoke exposure, with approximately 15,000 of these children being hospitalized. Additionally, exposure to secondhand smoke is a primary trigger for asthma.

How can I file a complaint?

The general public may report violations to the Lafayette Engineer's Department by calling 765-807-1050.

When reporting a violation please include the establishment's name, date the violation occurred, and a description of the incident during which the incidence occurred. All complaints will be investigated in a timely manner by the Engineer's Department.

What are the penalties for non-compliance?

A person who smokes in an area where smoking is prohibited by the ordinance will be guilty of an infraction, punishable by a fine of fifty dollars (\$50).

A person who owns, manages, operates, or otherwise controls a public place of employment and who fails to comply with the ordinance shall be guilty of an infraction, punishable by:

- A fine of fifty dollars (\$50) for the first violation
- A fine of one hundred dollars (\$100) for the second violation at the same place.
- A fine of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each additional violation at the same place.

Who is responsible for violations of the smoking law?

If smoking is allowed to continue in an establishment or place of employment included in this ordinance, citations may be issued to any number of persons involved, including the business owner, the manager, the operator on duty, and the person smoking.

Do businesses have to post a "NO SMOKING" sign on their entrances?

"No Smoking" signs or the International No Smoking symbol is required to be clearly posted in every building or area where smoking is prohibited by the owner, operator, manager or other person having control of the building.

"No Smoking" signs will be provided to all Lafayette businesses, free-of-charge, before the September 1, 2008, implementation date. Additional signs can be obtained from the City of Lafayette (while supplies last) by calling 765-807-1050.

How do I get information about quitting smoking?

Information about smoking cessation can be found on the Tobacco Free Partnership of Tippecanoe County's website at

[www.tobaccofreetippecanoe.org](http://www.tobaccofreetippecanoe.org)

or by calling the Indiana Tobacco Quitline at **1-800-QUIT-NOW**. The Indiana Tobacco Quitline is a highly effective, evidence-based tobacco cessation program available by phone to Indiana residents.

How can I find out more information about the ordinance?

For more information about the Lafayette smoke free workplace ordinance, call the Engineer's Department at 765-807-1050 or visit [www.lafayette.in.gov](http://www.lafayette.in.gov).

### Smoke free places in Lafayette include:

- All areas available to and customarily used by the general public in all businesses and nonprofit entities by the public.
- Places of employment, retail stores, restaurants and bars.
- Elevators, hospitals, clinics, physical therapy facilities, doctors' offices, and dentists' offices.
- Restrooms, lobbies, reception areas, hallways and any other common-use areas.
- Buses, taxicabs, and other means of public transit under the authority of the City of Lafayette, and ticket, boarding, and indoor waiting areas of public transit depots.
- Service lines, public areas of galleries, libraries, and indoor areas of museums.
- Any facility which is primarily used for exhibiting any motion picture, stage, drama, lecture, musical recital or other similar performance.
- Sports arenas, convention halls, bowling facilities, and polling places.
- Lobbies, hallways, and other common areas in apartment buildings, condominiums, trailer parks, retirement facilities, nursing homes, and other multiple-unit residential facilities.
- All enclosed facilities owned by the City of Lafayette, including city vehicles, whether or not they are occupied by more than one person.

### Places where smoking is still allowed in Lafayette include:

- Outdoors, except where prohibited by other applicable laws. However, smoking is prohibited within ten feet of any entrance to a non-exempt public place.
- Private residences, except when used as a licensed child care, adult day care or health care facility.
- Hotel and motel rooms that are rented to guests and are designated as smoking rooms. However, not more than twenty-five percent (25%) of rooms rented to guests in a hotel or motel may be designated as smoking.
- Retail tobacco stores, private clubs (except when used by the general public for any function), and tobacco bars.
- Outdoor areas of employment.
- Any business that, during all hours of operation:
  - allows no customer to enter any area of the business who is under the age of twenty-one;
  - employs no person in any area of the business who is under the age of twenty-one;
  - is not physically located within a business otherwise required to be smoke free by this ordinance.



Smoke free ordinance materials can be obtained from the  
City of Lafayette  
Engineer's Department  
or at  
[www.lafayette.in.gov](http://www.lafayette.in.gov)

20 North 6th Street  
765-807-1050

This brochure was made possible by a grant from the  
Indiana Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Agency

# Smoke Free Lafayette

## Frequently Asked Questions by Local Citizens

Proud to make our city  
a healthy place to  
live, work, and play