

CLEAN AIR FOR ALL

THE SMOKE-FREE PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECT

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In Case You Missed It: Regulating E-Cigarette and Marijuana Use in Public Housing

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Regulating E-Cigarette and Marijuana Use in Public Housing

Thinking of including e-cigarettes in your smoke-free housing policy? Confused about the impact of marijuana regulations on public housing? Our partner, Mike Freiberg, an attorney at the Public Health Law Center, breaks it down.

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Want more? Check out these resources.



Electronic Smoking Device Use in Multi-Unit Housing (MUH)

What is an electronic smoking device (ESD)?
ESDs are battery-operated devices that either contain a mixture of liquid nicotine, propylene glycol and flavor. There are many types of ESDs including e-cigarettes, inhalers, e-pens, vapor, AAAs, hookah pens, vapor pens, and personal vaporizers. When the mixture is heated, it is inhaled, producing a nicotine aerosol that is inhaled. Although the long-term health impact of ESD use is still unknown, there is a growing body of evidence that ESD use can have harmful health impacts.

Are all ESDs the same?
Not all ESDs are the same. Some contain nicotine and others do not. Some are flavored, some are not. Some are used in public places, and others are not. Some are used in public places, and others are not. Some are used in public places, and others are not.

Who uses ESDs?
ESD use and sales are increasing rapidly, and youth are disproportionately more likely to use ESDs than other groups.¹ ESD use also occurs among people seeking an alternative to conventional cigarettes that they perceive to be safer. They also appeal to those who do not want to smoke in places where conventional cigarette use is prohibited.

Are ESDs regulated?
The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has recently begun regulating ESDs. The new restrictions prohibit sales to minors under the age of 18, require manufacturers to register with the FDA, prohibit sales from making claims that their products are less harmful than cigarettes, require manufacturers to send ingredients lists for e-liquids, and require warning labels on ESDs and liquids.² Some states and municipalities nationwide also include ESD use in their local clean indoor air laws.

What are the health effects of ESD use?
ESDs are designed to deliver high amounts of nicotine to the user. Often, ESDs deliver more than two times the amount of nicotine compared to the FDA for smoking cigarettes.³ Nicotine is a highly addictive substance that can increase blood pressure and heart rate. Many of the ingredients found in ESDs are known to be dangerous to human health. These ingredients can cause lung and other inflammation, cancer, and other damage.

Why would MUH managers include ESDs in a smoke-free policy?
MUH managers are increasingly including ESDs in a smoke-free policy to protect the health of their residents and staff, reduce the potential risk of fire due to ESDs, and to prevent and/or reduce the risk of secondhand smoke from combustible smoking products and ESDs, protect children and pets from accidentally ingesting liquid or fully flavored e-juice, protect the integrity of their smoking ban, and to ensure an overall culture of health within the building.

www.smokefreepublichousingproject.org

Electronic Smoking Device Use
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MARIJUANA IN MULTI-UNIT RESIDENTIAL SETTINGS

As a growing number of states legalize medical and recreational marijuana and cannabis with related issues, such as regulating use in public areas and workplaces, property owners and tenants are beginning to ask questions about use in different multi-unit residential settings.



This fact sheet addresses a few common questions about smoking or using marijuana in multi-unit residences, including federally subsidized housing, and discusses similarities between smoke-free tobacco and marijuana policies. For more detailed discussion about overlaps between marijuana and tobacco control legislation, check out the Consortium for Openness, Taking Smoking & Public Health Lessons From Tobacco Control for Marijuana Regulation!

Q: Is secondhand marijuana smoke harmful?
A: Limited research exists regarding the impact of exposure to secondhand marijuana smoke. The combination or vaporization of marijuana produces cannabinoids, tar, and toxins.

www.pubhealthlawcenter.org

Marijuana in Multi-Unit
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