



Breathe Well in Sioux Falls!



Q. Why does the City of Sioux Falls regulate tobacco use on City property?

A. Laws that regulate the use of tobacco products are good for health and good for business. The Sioux Falls City Council unanimously passed an ordinance in May 2017 regarding where tobacco products may be used on city property. Tobacco-free or smoke-free environments are part of a vibrant hospitality scene; a healthy, livable community; and they help our residents and visitors to be healthy.

Q. Isn't there already a law that regulates smoking?

A. South Dakota state law prohibits smoking in enclosed areas and in places of employment. This local ordinance regulates smoking tobacco use in outdoor areas that are on city property.

Q. What is the policy for City buildings?

A. Smoking, including electronic smoking devices, is prohibited within 25 feet of entrances on all city properties. The downtown bus depot and the transfer station on Louise Avenue are completely smoke-free, and all Siouxland Library branches are completely tobacco-free.

Q. What is the policy for City parks?

A. No tobacco use of any kind is allowed on playgrounds in city parks and at facilities where youth activities are taking place. Youth activities are defined as those in which the intended participants and/or intended attendees are primarily under 18 years of age.

Permitted events in parks are smoke-free unless the event requests a designated smoking area, which is subject to approval from the Director of Parks & Recreation prior to the event permit being issued. (*Examples of "permitted events" include, but are not limited to: Jazzfest, Hot Harley Nights, the 4th of July Picnic at Falls Park, Cinco de Mayo, etc.*)

Q. Are golf courses included?

A. The policy does include the city golf courses (Elmwood, Kuehn, Prairie Green), but they do have some exceptions. Smoking is only allowed in the parking lots and during the "course of play." This is defined as after the first tee and before the final green of any nine holes of play. For example, smoking would be allowed after the #1 tee and before the #9 green, or after the #10 tee and before the #18 green.

Q. How does this policy affect the Denny Sanford PREMIER Center Campus?

A. The Denny Sanford PREMIER Center Campus includes the Denny Sanford PREMIER Center, the Sioux Falls Convention Center, the Sioux Falls Arena, and the Sheraton Hotel. Smoking, including electronic smoking devices, is not allowed within the area inside the "ring road" that circles those buildings (defined as the public access roads that connect Bailey Street to Western Avenue and Russell Street to Western Avenue). The parking lots outside of the ring road are exempt from the policy. These facilities **may** (but are not required to) designate a smoking area that minimizes public exposure to secondhand smoke.

Q. What is the policy at the Sioux Falls Canaries Stadium?

A. The Sioux Falls Canaries Stadium is smoke-free inside the stadium fence. This policy also creates a smoke-free area outside the fence on the sidewalks, around the front office and ticketing area, and the main gate entrances. The Sioux Falls Canaries *may* (but is not required to) designate a smoking area outside the fence that minimizes public exposure to secondhand smoke.

Q. Are there other types of city properties that are included in this policy?

A. Yes. There are many city properties that are leased to or managed by a third party, include the examples listed below. For these properties, smoking is prohibited within 25 feet of entrances. Managed and leased properties *may* (but are not required to) designate a smoking area that minimizes public exposure to secondhand smoke. They may also establish complete smoke-free or tobacco-free policies.

- Great Bear Recreation Area
- Great Plains Zoo & Delbridge Museum (already a smoke-free venue)
- Mary Jo Wegner Arboretum
- Orpheum Theater
- Washington Pavilion of Arts & Science

Q. How will this policy be enforced?

A. Just like South Dakota's clean indoor air law, smoke-free policies are largely self-enforcing. The City and its partners will utilize signs and other public awareness messages to communicate about the policy. If a circumstance arises where a person is violating the policy, they may be approached by an employee of that property, who will provide information about the policy with a request to refrain from smoking. If additional enforcement assistance is needed, employees of city facilities will be able to contact the police department.

Q. Tobacco is legal, so what about people's right to smoke?

A. Government's first priority is to protect the health and safety of its citizens, especially from a known health hazard. Everyone has a right to breathe clean air where they live, work, study, and play. Using tobacco is a choice. This ordinance does not take away someone's ability to choose to use tobacco. It simply asks them to refrain from doing so during the time they are on city property.

Q. What are some of the costs of tobacco use?

A. In the United States, nearly 500,000 people die every year from smoking. In South Dakota, that number is over 1,100 people each year...that is **3 people every day**. For every person who dies from smoking, another 30 people are living with a tobacco-related illness. In South Dakota, health care costs related to smoking exceed \$370 million. And, sadly, 21,000 South Dakota kids alive today will die prematurely of tobacco-caused diseases.

Q. What resources are available to help someone quit smoking?

A. South Dakota has one of the best Quit Lines in the country! To get personalized coaching and other tobacco cessation support, simply make a FREE call to 1-866-SD Quits (1-866-737-8487) or visit their website at www.sdquitline.com.