

Smoke-Free Illinois Act

Below is an outline of the Smoke-Free Illinois Act, which applies to all municipalities and unincorporated areas in the State of Illinois. Local smoke-free laws may be stricter, but may not allow smoking where State law prohibits it. See the other side of this fact sheet for information on local smoke-free laws in Lake County.

- Effective date is January 1, 2008.
- The following areas must be smoke-free:
 - All indoor public places and workplaces.
In addition to offices, the definition of workplace includes, but is not limited to restaurants, bars, bowling alleys, casinos, warehouses, factories, transportation facilities/garages, private clubs, and banquet halls. Private residences used as a licensed child care, adult day care, or healthcare facility, or any other home-based business open to the public are also considered workplaces and must be smoke-free. The only exemptions are listed below.
 - 15 feet from all doors, windows that open, and vents.
- Limited exemptions include:
 - Up to 25% of hotel/motel rooms, provided smoke does not infiltrate to smoke-free areas.
 - Tobacco retailers that file annually with the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). Stores must derive 80% of sales from tobacco-related products, may not have any kind of food, liquor, or restaurant license, and if they begin operation after 1/1/08, must be a freestanding structure.
 - Nursing home rooms in which all occupants have requested in writing to be placed in a room which allows smoking. Smoke may not infiltrate other areas.
- No smoking signs must be posted at every entrance.
Templates are available at many of the websites listed below.
- Ashtrays must be removed from smoke-free areas, including 15 feet from doorways, windows, and vents.
- The State has a toll-free telephone number and a website for complaints:
www.smoke-free.illinois.gov and 866-973-4646
- For more information, visit:
Tobacco Free Lake County, www.lakecountyil.gov/health/tobaccofree
Illinois Department of Public Health, www.smoke-free.illinois.gov
Smoke-Free Illinois, www.smokefreeillinois.org
Americans for Nonsmokers Rights, www.no-smoke.org

For more information, contact Tobacco Free Lake County
at 847-377-8090 or TFLC@lakecountyil.gov

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