

# Your rental property is an investment. Don't let it go up in smoke.



“Cigarettes and other smoking materials are the leading cause of fire deaths in the home. In fact, a single match or cigarette can burn an entire building. In 2010, smoking material fires caused \$663 million in direct property damage in the U.S. Smoke outside, and Put It Out!”

– Michael Della Rocco, City of Schenectady Fire Chief

## **In New York State, a majority of renters want to live in a smoke-free environment.**

By not allowing smoking in your building, you are giving your tenants the clean environment they want and protecting yourself from risk of fire.

- Prevent smoking-related fires in your building by making it 100% smoke-free indoors.
- Enforce your smoke-free policy as you would any other rule.
- If you choose to allow smoking outdoors, follow these safety tips:
  - Any smoking should be at least 20 feet from entrances, doors, balconies, windows and air intake vents.
  - Require cigarettes, cigars, and other tobacco products to be properly disposed of in a non-combustible container with water or sand.
  - Do not allow smoking near bark mulch or planters.
- Property managers across New York State are finding policies simple to adopt and the smoke-free units easy to rent.
- The U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) encourages no-smoking policies. Already, over 300 public housing authorities throughout the country have adopted no-smoking policies.



**For help implementing a smoke-free policy for your rentals, please email [contact@SmokeFreeHousingNY.org](mailto:contact@SmokeFreeHousingNY.org)**