



Monroe County Health Department

Monroe County, Indiana

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STATE SMOKING BAN TO MEAN SOME CHANGES FOR LOCAL WORKPLACES, BUSINESSES, PUBLIC PLACES

Bloomington, IN – Most of the impacts of the statewide smoking ban that starts July 1 won't affect people in Monroe County because of the stricter local smoking ordinances that have been in effect since 2005.

However, Monroe County Health Department officials say the new state smoking ban does mandate some requirements that are not included locally and will thus affect workplaces, businesses, and public places.

Health Department Administrator Penny Caudill says the major local effects include:

- Smoking will be banned within eight feet in front of each public entrance.
- All businesses/workplaces/public places must have appropriate signage, including:
 - Two signs inside stating that no smoking is allowed; and
 - A sign outside each public entrance stating that no smoking is allowed within eight feet of the entrance.
- Smoking receptacles may not be located inside nonsmoking areas.
- Ellettsville's incorporated area will be subject to the new state law.

Caudill noted that Indiana becomes the 40th state to enact a smoking ban, though the law includes some exceptions, like bars and gaming facilities. But she pointed out that hotels and motels are not exempt from the smoking ban.

The Indiana Alcohol & Tobacco Commission (ATC) will be the main enforcement arm, with assistance from the Indiana State Department of Health and local health departments. As in most other states, Caudill said, enforcement of the smoking ban will be complaint driven.

Citizens will be able to file a complaint on a form found at: www.in.gov/atc/2640.htm.

Caudill said that business education kits can be ordered on the ATC website, www.in.gov/atc, to help business owners and managers educate themselves, their staff, and their customers.

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