

Lincoln County Tobacco, Smoke, & Nicotine Free County Properties Policy

Section 1.

Purpose: It is the policy of Lincoln County to ensure a tobacco, smoke, and nicotine free environment that promotes the long-term health and safety of Lincoln County employees and the public. In accordance with our mission to provide essential services, both legally required and locally desired, in an efficient, effective, and respectful manner, establishing tobacco, smoke, and nicotine free properties will protect the public and our employees from exposure to second hand smoke, help people quit, remain nontobacco users, reduce litter and residue, as well as promote healthy community norms.

Scope: This policy applies to all Lincoln County employees, volunteers, interns, and clients. It also applies to visitors and vendors on properties owned or leased by Lincoln County.

Section 2.

Definitions:

Tobacco, Smoke, and/or Nicotine Products: Includes, but is not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, pipes, marijuana, and any other smoking and/or nicotine containing product; dip, chew snuff, snus, and any other smokeless tobacco and/or nicotine containing product; and nicotine or smoking delivery devices, including lighted smoking instruments such as electronic cigarettes or vaping, excluding FDA-Approved nicotine replacement therapy products for the purpose of tobacco cessation

Lincoln County Employee: Includes, but is not limited to, any full time or part time employee contracted, locum, temporary, seasonal, etc.

Section 3.

Use of tobacco, smoke, and/or nicotine products is prohibited. No Lincoln County employee, volunteer, intern, client, visitor, or vendor, shall carry any lighted smoking or vaping instrument or use a tobacco, smoke, or nicotine product on any leased or owned Lincoln County property.

There are no designated areas for the use of tobacco, smoke, and/or nicotine product use or exceptions to this policy outside of the cultural exemption related to the American Indian Religious Freedom Act (Section 4).

Section 4.

Cultural Exemption: Lincoln County understands and accepts that there are many diverse individuals and cultures that make up our dynamic population. Exemption for the use of noncommercial tobacco for ceremonial, cultural, religious, or medicinal activities that are in accordance with the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 42 U.S.C. section 1996 may be allowed at the discretion of the Board of Commissioners on county owned or leased properties.

Section 5.

Communication of Policy: Signs will be used to designate Lincoln County owned or leased facilities or properties as tobacco, smoke, and nicotine free. This policy applies to all facilities and grounds owned and/or leased by Lincoln County regardless of whether or not signs are posted.

The Lincoln County Personnel Department will inform new employees of this policy at orientation. Information on tobacco and/or nicotine cessation assistance will be included.

Annually a county-wide email will be sent on behalf of the Tobacco Prevention and Education Program entailing the language of the policy as well as the cessation benefits included with County insurance packages as well as any information on local cessation programs.

Compliance: Employees who observe an individual violating the policy is encouraged to inform the person of the policy if they feel comfortable doing so. Management and supervisory staff are responsible for ongoing compliance with this policy within their respective workplaces.

Cessation Support: Lincoln County is committed to assisting employees, volunteers, clients, visitors, and vendors in overcoming tobacco and nicotine dependency. Lincoln County employees have access to tobacco cessation and medication as part of their medical benefits. In addition, Lincoln County will communicate the policy to all current and new employees as part of the policy implementation. Other interested individuals may be referred to the Oregon Tobacco Quit Line, 1-800-QUIT NOW (1-800-784-8669) or 1-877-2NO FUME (1-877-266-3863).

Section 6.

Implementation Date:

Signed By: