

## **MCKEAN COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY**

### **SMOKING POLICY**

#### **PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this policy is to inform the public and out tenants of the banning of smoking in all public housing units operated by the McKean County Housing Authority.

#### **REASONS FOR THE POLICY**

According to the American Lung Association, cigarette smoking is the number one cause of preventable disease in the United States. Smoking and secondhand smoke can cause serious health issues for those who smoke and those who are exposed. Smoking is also a cause of fires and fire-related deaths and injuries. It also increases the costs associated with turnovers when apartments are vacated by smokers.

#### **DEFINITION:**

Smoking is the lighting or burning of any pipe, cigar, cigarette, or other tobacco product.

#### **POLICY STATEMENT**

The McKean County Housing Authority bans smoking in **ALL PUBLIC HOUSING UNITS** as of **May 1, 2011**.

1. **Jenny L., Medberry Manor, Page Place and Dickinson Manor** – smoking is prohibited in the building. Tenants and their visitors are permitted to smoke outside on the tenants' patios. Tenants and their visitors are also asked to be courteous of their neighbors when smoking outside so that smoke does not go in neighboring apartments through open windows.
2. **Riley Road and The Abbie** – smoking is prohibited in the building and within 25 feet of the front entrance. Tenants and visitors may smoke at the rear or side entrances of the building as long as they are not blocking the entryway. Tenants and their visitors are also asked to be courteous of their neighbors when smoking outside so that smoke does not go in apartments through open windows.
3. **Family Units** - smoking is prohibited in the building. Tenants and their visitors are permitted to smoke outside of their unit. Tenants and their visitors are also asked to be courteous of their neighbors when smoking outside so that smoke does not go in neighboring apartments through open windows.
4. **Any tenant who is required to use oxygen is prohibited from smoking outdoors while using oxygen.**

## **ENFORCEMENT:**

Any violation of this policy should be reported to the McKean County Housing Authority office staff.

**Any visitor who smokes in an area designated as a non-smoking area will be barred from the property. Residents face lease termination. Residents are responsible for their visitors and required to enforce this policy with them.**

- **First Offense:**
  - Tenant will receive a verbal notice from the Authority that will be documented in the file.
- **Second Offense:**
  - Tenant will receive a written notice from the Authority and given a warning that the next offense will result in an eviction notice.
- **Third Offense:**
  - Tenant will receive an eviction notice and will have 30 days to vacate the premise.