

Warrensburg, MO Passes Smoking Ordinance

The city council of Warrensburg, MO passed a smoking ordinance with limited exceptions on November 23. This ordinance will not become effective until November 30, 2010 giving local businesses plenty of time to comply.

The ordinance covers all public places including restaurants, bars, private clubs and bowling alleys.

A student group at Central Missouri State University in Warrensburg views the passage of the ordinance as a step in the right direction for a possible campus

Smoking Ban Improves Health

A study from Scotland, published in the New England Journal of Medicine provides ongoing evidence that public bans on smoking improves health by reducing exposure to secondhand smoke. The study showed hospital admissions for heart attacks and acute coronary problems fell 17% overall and even more for nonsmokers the year after Scotland banned smoking in public places.

"There has long been a claim from smokers that they are affecting their own bodies and why should the public care?" said David Cohen, director of cardiovascular research at Saint Luke's Mid America Heart Institute in Kansas City, Mo. *"This shows that the public should absolutely care ... that is an incredibly powerful finding."*

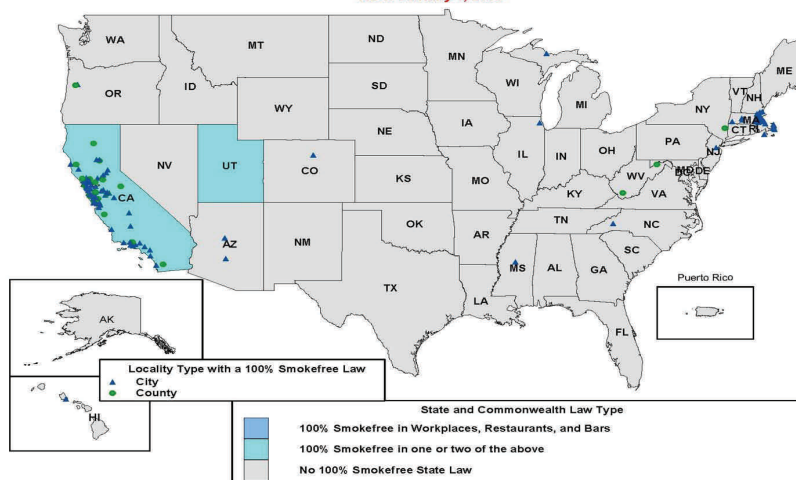
Dr. Cohen estimates that every year there are about one million hospitalizations for acute coronary syndrome in the U.S. and he pegs the cost of care at \$10 billion per year or more.

A Decade of Smoke Free Progress

United States 100% Smokefree Laws

American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation

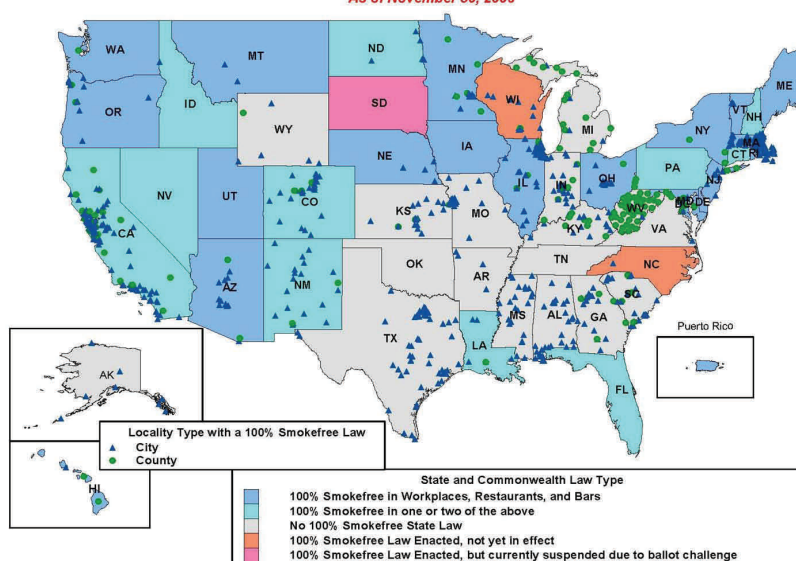
As of January 1, 2000



United States 100% Smokefree Laws

American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation

As of November 30, 2009




According to Americans for Non Smokers Rights, remarkable progress has been made this decade with the right to breathe clean air in workplaces, public places and other venues. There's much to celebrate thanks to policymaker champions, partners, grassroots supporters and researchers. The smoke-free movement still faces big challenges for closing regional disparities and gaps in partial local and statewide laws that exempt jobsites like casinos, bars or smoking rooms.

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Clean Air Kansas City

Happy Holidays
and Wishing You
a Smoke Free
2010!

Phone: 913.652.1927
E-mail: info@cleanairkc.com
www.cleanairkc.com

 clean air KANSAS CITY
6800 W 93rd Street
Overland Park, KS 66212

Restaurant Owner Likes “Clean” Smoking Ordinance

2009 Testimony by Donna Bartholomew before the KS House Committee on Health and Human Services.

I have experienced the suspense of Hutchinson passing a non smoking law, heard pro’s and con’s from our customers, and lived through the fears of the un-known results of the smoking ban.

Since 1947, Skaets Steak Shop has been a favorite local neighborhood family café in Hutchinson, KS.

As the owner of Skaets Steak Shop for over 33 years I can testify to what I know secondhand smoke to truly be.

“Secondhand smoke” does not really describe how disgusting it really is. It is spending free time or down time cleaning and painting the ceilings and walls up to 3 times per year because the nicotine stained the metal.

While cleaning, the brown nicotine would run down our arms and smell like something rotten. The towels were a very dirty brown and had to be trashed. There can be no doubt in my mind that what was on the ceiling and what was running down our arms is also being absorbed in our bodies and lungs.

We all know from the studies that secondhand smoking is bad for our health. Then why are we allowing the people that can least afford medical bills and loss of work that is related to illnesses from secondhand smoke to work under these conditions?

In conclusion, after the smoking ban in Hutchinson, business is booming and we have been able to upgrade knowing that it will not be ruined from smoke damage. We continue to see new faces daily and Skaets has become a reputable icon in Hutchinson.