

200 Gibson Street / Tonawanda, New York 14150 / 716-692-3555

Resident Notification – Tonawanda Housing Authority apartments and property are smoke free

January 1, 2019.

To All Residents

The Tonawanda Housing Authority has adopted the NYSHCR and HUD policy for a smoke -free property in order to provide a healthier environment for all residents. The harmful effects of secondhand smoke, increased maintenance costs due to smoking and fire danger caused by indoor smoking are simply too great to ignore.

- As of February 1, 2019, ALL buildings, apartments, hallways and common indoor areas such as Community Rooms, offices and Maintenance Buildings are considered smoke free.
- Outdoor areas of the THA property are also included in the NYS and Federal smoking ban.
 Smoking is allowed on City sidewalks and common sidewalks on THA property. <u>Common sidewalks DO NOT Include the apartment porch or sidewalk leading to the porch</u>
- This policy includes tenants as well as guests, THA Maintenance and Office Staff as well.

This policy was passed to protect the health of our residents, staff and guests. Secondhand smoke is a Class A carcinogen, which means it is a cancer-causing agent with no risk-free level of exposure. Secondhand smoke can travel through doorways, windows, wall joints, plumbing spaces and common subbasements. Secondhand smoke from one unit can adversely affect the health of residents in other units. In addition, fires caused by smoking related materials are the number one cause of home fire deaths. This policy covers regular tobacco cigarettes as well as marijuana (Medical or Illegal), any E-Cigarette, Vaping device, hookah or loose tobacco or tobacco like substance.

If you or your family members are interested in more information on smoke-free living, please visit www.nysmokerfree.com. THA will also be holding a "smoking policy and education" meeting in conjunction with Roswell Park on Monday January 14, 2018 at 6:00pm in the Community Room attached to the THA Office Building to answer any questions you may have. In addition, the above links will also be available on the THA website www.tonha.org in order to provide additional resources that can help if you are thinking about quitting smoking.

Please feel free to contact the THA office 716-692-3555 if you have any questions. We will be happy to assist you in any way possible to work toward being smoke-free.

Thank you

Dale Kokahovich / THA Manager