

## Sample letter to your landlord

Date

Dear (name of landlord),

I am writing to tell you about a problem I am (or we are) having with secondhand tobacco smoke in my unit. This smoke is coming from (say where smoke is coming from: Neighbor's unit? Window? Hallway? Other?).

Not only does the smoke smell, it's a health risk. Secondhand smoke contains more than 4,000 chemicals. Of these, 11 can cause cancer and 250 are toxic.

The smoke seeps through light fixtures and electrical outlets. It passes through windows and doorways. It passes through ventilation systems.

This smoke causes asthma in kids and adults. And it's linked to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS). It's also bad for older people and those with heart and breathing problems. Up to 175 Montanans die from secondhand smoke each year.

There is no safe level of secondhand smoke. The only way to protect your health is to keep smoke away.

I have asked people to smoke outside. But this has not worked.

Smokefree policies protect health in buildings like ours. Please (what do you want to say? Make our building smokefree? Remind people about our policy? Make our policy stronger? Ban smoking from all units, halls, balconies and outside common areas?)

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

(Name)

### *Helpful Tips:*

- If you have a physician's letter, enclose a copy.
- Keep copies of all letters.
- Document all conversations about smokefree housing.

