

WHERE SMOKING IS PROHIBITED

Cotati Municipal Code 9.31 prohibits smoking (including tobacco, “e-cigs” and marijuana) in the following places:

Indoors

- Places of employment
- Public places, whether publicly or privately owned
- Recreation facilities
- City buildings and vehicles
- Multi-unit residential common areas
- Within the units of attached multi-unit residences, including decks and patios (effective January 1st, 2017)

Outdoors

- Old Redwood Highway and its abutting sidewalks between the hours of 6 AM and 8 PM
- Restaurants and bars, including outdoor dining areas*
- Recreational areas, such as parks, athletic fields, hiking trails, bike paths, and picnic areas
- Public places, including streets and sidewalks, when being used for a public event such as a farmers’ market, parade, fair or festival
- Service lines, such as bus stops, transit stops, ATMs, ticket lines, and cab stands
- Common areas of multi-unit residential developments, except in designated smoking areas
- Within 25 feet of doorways, windows, and vents of any building where smoking is prohibited, and within 25 feet of any outdoor area where smoking is prohibited

* When visiting bars and restaurants located on Old Redwood Highway between Page St and La Plaza be aware that smoking is optional after 8 PM in outdoor dining areas and that smoking is optional at all times in outdoor dining areas that are not on or directly accessible from Old Redwood Highway

Smoke-Free Laws in Cotati

What you need to know about
Cotati's new smoking laws



www.cotaticity.org

This is an informational brochure only
Please see Cotati Municipal Code 9.31 for the
regulations in full.

SMOKE-FREE HOUSING

As of January 1st, 2017, smoking will be prohibited in all attached multi-unit housing developments with two or more units sharing one or more walls, ceilings, or floors (e.g. apartments, co-ops, condominiums, common interest developments, etc). This includes areas such as private decks, balconies, and porches of residential units.

Effective immediately, smoking is prohibited in all indoor and outdoor common areas except within outdoor designated smoking areas that conform to the ordinance's provisions for designated smoking areas.

NO SMOKING SIGNS

No smoking signs can be ordered or downloaded and printed from the Sonoma County Department of Health Services website:

<http://www.sonoma-county.org/health/topics/smokefreeinfo-resources.asp>

SMOKING INFORMATION

The Sonoma County Department of Health Services provides an abundance of information about the effects of smoking, resources to aid in quitting smoking, and toolkits for businesses, landlords, and residents. Please visit:

<http://www.sonoma-county.org/BreatheEasy>

FILING A COMPLAINT

You may report incidences of smoking in prohibited areas by contacting the Sonoma County Department of Health Services at (707) 565-6680.

HEALTH EFFECTS OF SECONDHAND SMOKE

The Surgeon General's 2006 report on the health effects of secondhand smoke (HHS, 2006) came to the following conclusions:

- There is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke.
- Exposure to secondhand smoke, a carcinogen that contains more than 50 cancer-causing chemicals, leads to disease and premature death in nonsmoking adults and children.
- Eliminating smoking in individual units and common areas is the only way to guarantee full protection from secondhand smoke indoors. Cleaning the air with air cleaning systems cannot prevent exposure. Shared heating, ventilating, and AC systems can circulate secondhand smoke throughout a residential building.
- Exposed children are more likely to suffer sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS), acute respiratory infections, more severe asthma, and ear problems.

The Surgeon General's most recent report on the Health Consequences of Smoking (HHS, 2014) adds the following information:

- Since the first Surgeon General's report was published in 1964, 20 million Americans have died from smoking. 2.5 million of these deaths were nonsmokers who died from exposure to second hand smoke; 100,000 of those deaths were babies.
- Nearly half a million Americans die prematurely from smoking each year.
- 1 out of 3 cancer deaths is caused by smoking.
- Smoking impairs the functioning of the immune system.
- The tobacco epidemic was initiated and has been sustained by the tobacco industry, which deliberately misled the public about the risks of smoking cigarettes.

TIPS TO AID COMPLIANCE

MULTI-UNIT RESIDENTIAL BUILDINGS WITH 2+ UNITS

All property owners must:

- Not knowingly allow smoking in areas where it is prohibited
- Notify all existing tenants of the new ordinance
- Include disclosure about the ordinance after January 1, 2016, in all rental leases or agreements
- Post "No Smoking" signs in all indoor and outdoor common areas
- Remove ash trays, cans, and other receptacles used for disposal of smoking waste from areas where smoking is prohibited

COMMERCIAL AND PUBLIC BUILDINGS

Owners and managers of buildings open to the public must:

- Post a sign stating: "No Smoking within 25 feet of Doorways, Operable Windows or Vents."
- Not place ash receptacles within areas where smoking is prohibited. Ash receptacles should be placed at least 25 feet away from any area where smoking is prohibited.
- Inform your employees, customers, clients and/or office building tenants of the updated smoke-free ordinance.
- Not allow smoking anytime inside your workplace or in outdoor restricted areas.