



## Food Service Establishments and Smoke-Free Laws in Larimer County

For questions or more information, contact Tobacco Free Larimer County at 970.498.6718 or [dhuang@larimer.org](mailto:dhuang@larimer.org).

***Smoke-free laws are designed to protect workers and customers from the serious health risks associated with secondhand smoke, which is estimated to cause nearly 50,000 deaths each year in the United States.***

The **Colorado Clean Indoor Air Act** requires most public indoor areas and places of employment to be smoke-free.

- Smoking is not allowed in restaurants, bars, casinos, gaming facilities such as bingo halls, billiard or pool halls, bowling alleys, public buildings, grocery stores or **any food service establishment**.
- In addition, smoking is not allowed within **15-feet** of an establishment or business' main entryway.
- In the **City of Fort Collins**, smoking is not allowed within **20-feet** of entrances, operable windows, passageways, and ventilation systems of smoke-free areas. Additionally, **"No Smoking" signs** must be posted at every entrance to the business (minimum size is 20 square inches; sign must include international no smoking symbol and be hung between 4-6 feet above the floor).

Exemptions from the law include retail tobacco businesses, cigar-tobacco bars, and outdoor areas of businesses.

- **Retail tobacco business** – engaged primarily in the sale of tobacco, tobacco products, or smoking devices or accessories, and in which the sale of other products is merely incidental. There are additional restrictions on retail tobacco businesses in the **City of Fort Collins**.
- **Cigar-tobacco bar** – within the calendar year ending December 31, 2005, met the definition of a bar and generated at least 5% or more of its total annual gross income or \$50,000 in annual sales from the on-site sale of tobacco products and the rental of on-site humidors.
- Smoking is still allowed in **outdoor areas** of businesses so long as it is beyond the 15-foot radius around the main entryway, or in the **City of Fort Collins**, 20-feet from business entrances, operable windows, passageways, and ventilation systems.
- The law clearly states that an **"indoor area" means any enclosed area or portion thereof. The opening of windows or doors, or the temporary removal of wall panels, does not convert an indoor area into an outdoor area.**

More information on the **Colorado Clean Indoor Air Act** is available at [www.smokefreecolorado.org](http://www.smokefreecolorado.org).

More information on the **City of Fort Collins** ordinance is available at [www.fcgov.com/smoking](http://www.fcgov.com/smoking).