Your Town

search

GO

< Back to front page

Text size - +





ALLSTON BRIGHTON, BACK BAY, BEACON HILL, CHARLESTOWN, DORCHESTER, DOWNTOWN, EAST OSTON, FENWAY-KENMORE, HYDE PARK, JAMAICA PLAIN, MATTAPAN, NORTH ND, ROSLINDALE, ROXBURY, SOUTH BOSTON, SOUTH END, WEST ROXBURY

Boston set to become largest city in US to ban smoking in public housing

Posted by Matt Rocheleau September 28, 2012 02:55 PM

Print I Comments ()

By Matt Rocheleau, Town Correspondent

Next week, Boston will become largest city in the country to ban smoking in public housing.

The plan that was formally introduced a year ago will go into effect on Sunday, Sept. 30, banning anyone from smoking inside Boston Housing Authority residential buildings, city officials said.

"The City of Boston is proud to be on the forefront of having smoke-free living in our public housing," Mayor Thomas M. Menino said in a statement. "All our residents deserve a safe, healthy environment to live and raise their families in."

Last January, public housing residents in Boston began signing lease addendums dictating that each household member and their guests agree to not smoke inside their apartment, elsewhere in the building or within a specified distance from the building, the authority said in a press release.

ADVERTISEMENT

Boston Shops »



Let the shopping begin. Get exclusive promotions and sales from your favorite retailers. And never miss a great deal again.

SEE A SAMPLE

SIGN UP NOW

WEST ROXBURY REAL ESTATE »

122 Homes for sale

32 Rentals available

Open houses this week

New listings

SPECIAL ADVERTISING DIRECTORY

CAMP GUIDE »



A camp for every kid!

Adventure, sports, theater, music, arts or technology-find the perfect camp for your child at boston.com/campguide.

Compliance with that non-smoking policy is required regardless of whether a tenant has signed the lease addendum, the release said. Those found in violation are subject a fine of up to \$250 and other lease enforcement actions.

The Boston Housing Authority is the city's largest landlord and it is the largest public housing authority in New England. Across 60 developments and some other smaller sites, the authority owns and manages about 14,000 units that house about 27,000 people.

"We are excited to implement this policy for the well-being of all of our residents," said a statement from Boston Housing Authority administrator Bill McGonagle. "This creates a healthy environment for everyone, especially children, residents suffering from asthma, and our elderly who are afflicted with emphysema and cardiovascular disease."

The US Housing and Urban Development department approved the city housing authority's non-smoking policy last summer, officials said. The state Department of Housing and Community Development has also signed-off on the policy.

Several weeks ago, final notices were sent to remind residents of the forthcoming policy, according to the release.

The housing authority said it regularly receives transfer requests from residents who want to live in housing free of second-hand smoke.

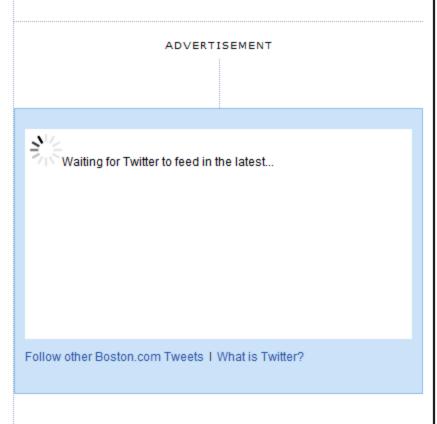
"These transfer requests document the hazards that second-hand smoke is causing for BHA residents, many of whom are elderly or children with asthma, cancer or other illnesses," the authority said in the release.

The authority said that in a survey of 1,300 of its residents, 90 percent, including those who said they smoke, reported that they support a non-smoking housing environment.

The policy does not prohibit individuals who smoke from living in Boston's public housing owned and managed properties, officials said.

The housing authority has partnered with the Boston Public Health

Commission to provide smoking cessation counseling, free nicotine patches and
other resources for residents who want to try to guit smoking, according to the



Last year, the city also launched a registry, bostonsmokefreehomes.org, for landlords to list smoke-free units, so that renters can find them more easily. For more information on the non-smoking policy and lease addendum for city public housing, click here. E-mail Matt Rocheleau at mjrochele@gmail.com. For the latest updates about your community, follow some of our local neighborhood, city and town Twitter accounts, here. Previous entry Next entry Next entry	release.	y to quit smoking, according to the	
public housing, click here. E-mail Matt Rocheleau at mjrochele@gmail.com. For the latest updates about your community, follow some of our local neighborhood, city and town Twitter accounts, here. Previous entry Next entry Home Today's Globe News Business Sports Lifestyle A&E Things to Do Travel Cars Jobs Real Estate Local Search CONTACT BOSTON.COM Help Advertise Work here Privacy Policy Your Ad Choices Terms of Service Newsletters Mobile RSS feeds Sitemap			
For the latest updates about your community, follow some of our local neighborhood, city and town Twitter accounts, here. Previous Next entry		policy and lease addendum for city	
Home Today's Globe News Business Sports Lifestyle A&E Things to Do Travel Cars Jobs Real Estate Local Search CONTACT BOSTON.COM Help Advertise Work here Privacy Policy Your Ad Choices Terms of Service News letters Mobile RSS feeds Sitemap	E-mail Matt Rocheleau at mjrochele@gmai	il.com.	
Home Today's Globe News Business Sports Lifestyle A&E Things to Do Travel Cars Jobs Real Estate Local Search CONTACT BOSTON.COM Help Advertise Work here Privacy Policy Your Ad Choices Terms of Service Newsletters Mobile RSS feeds Sitemap			
Home Today's Globe News Business Sports Lifestyle A&E Things to Do Travel Cars Jobs Real Estate Local Search CONTACT BOSTON.COM Help Advertise Work here Privacy Policy Your Ad Choices Terms of Service Newsletters Mobile RSS feeds Sitemap			
CONTACT BOSTON.COM Help Advertise Work here Privacy Policy Your Ad Choices Terms of Service Newsletters Mobile RSS feeds Sitemap		-	
CONTACT BOSTON.COM Help Advertise Work here Privacy Policy Your Ad Choices Terms of Service Newsletters Mobile RSS feeds Sitemap			
CONTACT BOSTON.COM Help Advertise Work here Privacy Policy Your Ad Choices Terms of Service Newsletters Mobile RSS feeds Sitemap			
	Home Today's Globe News B	usiness Sports Lifestyle A&E Things to	Do Travel Cars Jobs Real Estate Local Search
CONTACT THE BOSTON GLOBE Subscribe Manage your subscription Advertise Boston Globe Insiders The Boston Globe Gallery © NY Times Co.	CONTACT BOSTON.COM Help Advertise	Work here Privacy Policy Your Ad Choices	Terms of Service Newsletters Mobile RSS feeds Sitemap
	CONTACT THE BOSTON GLOBE Subscribe	el Manage your subscription Advertise Bosto	n Globe Insiders The Boston Globe Gallery © NY Times Co.