

Missouri City Passes “No Smoking” Ban

Missouri City Council voted to snuff out smoking in most public places at its July 6 meeting.

The no-smoking ordinance, which takes effect Oct. 1, covers:

*Most enclosed public places, including workplaces, restaurants, libraries, elevators, polling places, pool and billiard halls, bingo facilities and educational facilities.

*Youth sporting events held in City parks; lighting up is prohibited within 20 feet of the playing surface or competition area.

*Outdoor areas within 25 feet of entrances to public places

Violations will be punishable by a fine of up to \$500 and the City will conduct a public awareness campaign. Owners, operators and managers of public places and workplaces will be responsible for posting “No Smoking” signs announcing the ban and for removing ashtrays from areas where smoking is restricted.

Smoking will not be regulated in outdoor seating areas of restaurants, private residences except those used for adult daycare and childcare, certain private and semi-private rooms in nursing homes, retail tobacco stores, tobacco bars and during certain stage performances when smoking is part of an act.