



Smoking and fire risk in your apartment community

Allowing smoking in your apartment community puts your property and residents at risk!



In Cobb County, smoking caused
12 structure fires
in 2020

- Smoking is the **leading cause of fire-related deaths** in apartments
- Apartment fires cause about **\$173 million** in property damage a year.

Smoke-free policies

can help prevent fires!



BreatheEasy Georgia Homes:

Can help you adopt and implement a smoke-free policy and provides free recognition for smoke-free properties, including a listing on their website. Visit breatheeasyghomes.org to learn more!

Fires are one of the top reasons property owners and managers in the southeast adopt a smoke-free policy at their properties:

"...we've had two fires caused by somebody smoking a cigarette, so we don't want that, and so that's a good reason for us to say you can't smoke inside the apartment."

-Housing Authority Director in Georgia

"... simply taking smoking out of the units was the way that we could stop smoking-related fires, and we haven't had a smoking-related fire in a while - a long time, thank goodness, because of it."

- Company President in North Carolina

"A gentleman was smoking in his apartment ... He was putting his ashes in his dresser drawer and one of those ashes had an ember in it and it destroyed a brand new building - three apartments.... He was on the third floor, he burned his apartment, and water damaged two apartments to the point that it was hundreds of thousands of dollars on a brand new property."

- Director of Property Management in North Carolina

Visit breatheeasyghomes.org today to learn how you can make your property smoke-free!

Sources:

- National Fire Protection association's "Home Fires Started by Smoking", 2019. <https://www.nfpa.org/News-and-Research/Data-research-and-tools/US-Fire-Problem/Smoking-Materials>
- Cobb County Fire Statistics 2020
- Interview data from the Emory Prevention Research Center's Smoke-Free Homes Project, supported by the National Cancer Institute's State and Community Tobacco Control Research Initiative, Grant Number U01CA154282.