

Harford County, Maryland  
Rule and Regulation  
Tobacco-Free

**Purpose:**

The County is committed to promoting a healthy and productive environment for our employees, vendors, and visitors. This rule and regulation is intended to: 1) reduce the health risks related to tobacco, smoking, secondhand smoke, and third-hand smoke inasmuch as smoking is a major cause of preventable disease and death, 2) reduce the environmental damage caused by discarded cigarette butts, 3) eliminate the risk of smoking-caused fires, and 4) promote a positive image to the public.

Smoking and use of any tobacco products is prohibited on all property owned, leased or operated by Harford County, Maryland (the "County"), as well as any active County worksite. This consists of all buildings and grounds, including exterior open spaces, parking lots and garages, driveways and recreational facilities, with the exception of the District Court grounds and parking facility and the Circuit Court grounds. In addition, smoking is prohibited in any vehicle owned or leased by the County.

Smoking is defined as the burning of tobacco or other material in any type of smoking equipment, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars or pipes. The use of tobacco products include, but are not limited to snuff, dip, e-cigarettes and chewing tobacco.

Any person who has entered into a rental contract with the County for the use of a County facility, the date of which contract is prior to the effective date of this rule and regulation, may request that the County establish a designated smoking area on the grounds of the facility during the event listed in the rental contract.

Any person who has a current lease with the County to rent residential property owned by the County for the purpose of acting as a caretaker, shall be permitted to smoke on the grounds (not within the residence) until such time as the lease expires. Any new lease shall provide that no smoking will be permitted on County property.

**Scope:**

This rule and regulation applies to all individuals on County property and/or within County owned or leased vehicles including employees, vendors and visitors.

**Procedure:**

Employees who violate this regulation are subject to disciplinary action. Visitors and/or vendors who are observed violating this regulation will be required to cease the violation, or will be asked to leave the premises. Concerns regarding violations of this regulation should be referred to the Department of Administration, 220 S. Main Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Bel

Air, Maryland 21014, (410) 638-3350.

**Effective date:**

This rule and regulation shall go into effect on January 1, 2012.

In accordance with Section 807 of the Charter, this rule and regulation was subject to a public hearing, occurring on December 5, 2011 at 2 p.m. in the Second Floor Conference Room, 220 South Main Street, Bel Air, Maryland 21014.