



Smoke-Free Ontario Act 2005

How the Act Affects: Sporting Areas

The Basics

- The Smoke-Free Ontario Act came into force on May 31, 2006.
- The act prohibits smoking in enclosed workplaces and enclosed public places in Ontario in order to protect workers and the public from the hazards of second-hand smoke.

Sporting Areas

Starting January 1, 2015, smoking is no longer allowed at publicly-owned outdoor sporting areas, spectator areas, sporting areas and public areas within 20 metres of any point of the edge of the sporting or spectator areas.

This applies to spaces:

- Owned by the province, a municipality, colleges and universities,
- Used primarily for sports, such as soccer, football, basketball, beach volleyball or skateboarding (with the exception of golf),
- Open to the public whether or not a fee is charged to enter.

Owner Responsibilities

- The act requires owners and operators of these sporting areas to ensure that smoking laws are respected. They are required to:
 - Give notice to the public that smoking is not allowed in smoke-free areas.
 - Post "no smoking" signs at entrances and exits to the smoke-free areas, in appropriate locations and in sufficient numbers to ensure that the public is aware that smoking is not allowed.
 - Ensure that people do not smoke in the smoke-free areas.
 - Ensure that someone who refuses to comply with Ontario's smoking laws does not remain in the smoke-free area.

Enforcement

- Local public health units will carry out inspections and respond to complaints regarding smoking on and around sporting areas.

Penalties

- Anyone caught smoking on or around these sporting area may be charged with an offence, and if convicted could face a maximum fine of \$1,000 (for a first offence) or \$5,000 (for any further offence).
- The owner or operator of a sporting area who fails to fulfill their responsibilities under the law may be charged with an offence, and if convicted, could face a maximum fine:
- For individuals: \$1,000 (for a first offence) or \$5,000 (for any further offence),
- For owners: \$100,000 (for a first offence) or \$300,000 (for any further offence).

This fact sheet is intended as a quick reference only. For more information, please contact your local public health unit at:



For more information, contact
Halton Region
Dial 311 or 905-825-6000
1-866-4HALTON (1-866-442-5866)
TTY 905-827-9833
www.halton.ca

You may also obtain information by calling toll-free:

- INFOline 1-866-396-1760
- TTY 1-800-387-5559

Hours of operation: Monday to Friday, 8:30am - 4:30pm

For more information on the *Smoke-Free Ontario Act*, please visit the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care website: Ontario.ca/smokefree

