



## WI Goes Smoke-Free July 5

“We can all breathe easier! Come out join us!” That’s what Wisconsin businesses are encouraging people to do on July 5, 2010. On that date, Wisconsin will join the other 22 states that are 100% smoke-free in all workplaces, including restaurants and bars.

Wisconsin workers will no longer have to choose between their health and a paycheck, and customers will be able to enjoy a night out without worrying about secondhand smoke. The State Legislature realized the dangers of secondhand smoke and passed a law to protect the health of everyone. The law will prohibit smoking in all indoor workplaces including:

- taverns
- lodging places
- restaurants
- bowling alleys
- theaters
- retail establishments
- private clubs
- buildings open to the public
- bus shelters and public transportation
- common areas of apartment buildings
- all other indoor places of employment

Smoking will also not be allowed in sports arenas of all kinds (Lambeau Field, Miller Park, gymnasiums, swimming pools, skating rinks, etc).

It is everyone’s job to enforce the law Smoke-Free Air Law and as seen in other states, the law is largely self-enforcing. The law requires the person in charge of an establishment to ask any person violating the law to stop smoking or leave. In the case of restaurants, bars and private clubs, the establishment must refuse to serve the violator if the person refuses to comply. Businesses cannot provide items such as ashtrays or matches to customers or employees.

Smoke-free air laws are good for health and good for business. Many businesses have decided to embrace the law and have gone smoke-free already, and the list is growing daily. For a list of smoke-free business or to get more information or resources on the Smoke-Free Air Law, please visit [www.wibettersmokefree.com](http://www.wibettersmokefree.com), contact the Health Services Division at (920) 236-5030 or your local tobacco control coordinator at (920) 232-3021 or email [edieringer@co.winnebago.wi.us](mailto:edieringer@co.winnebago.wi.us).

