



Expanded Clean Indoor Air Act Fact Sheet for Smokefree Restaurants and Bars

The expanded Clean Indoor Air Act will go into effect July 24, 2003. This act expands the 1989 Clean Indoor Air Act and further protects all New Yorkers at work and in public from deadly secondhand smoke.

- The Clean Indoor Air Act (Public Health Law, Article 13-E) prohibits smoking in nearly all public and work places to protect the public and employees from secondhand smoke. Secondhand smoke is the combination of smoke exhaled by a smoker and the smoke from a burning cigarette. This combination is dangerous for both the smoker and the nonsmoker. It contains more than 4,000 chemicals, including 43 known cancer-causing substances. Secondhand smoke kills approximately 62,000 nonsmokers each year in the United States.
- Restaurants and bars are included in the expanded act because workers in these establishments are typically exposed to high levels of secondhand smoke. Waitresses have higher rates of lung and heart disease than any other traditional female occupational group, according to a study published by the *Journal of the American Medical Association*.
- One shift in a smoky bar is equivalent to smoking 16 cigarettes a day, according to the same report. And according to the UC Berkeley School of Public Health, two hours in a smoky bar is the same as smoking four cigarettes.
- Studies from other cities and states in the nation show that going smokefree has a neutral or positive impact on the profits of restaurants and bars.
- Smoking in an outdoor area of a restaurant is permitted as long as the smoking section is not more than 25 percent of the outdoor seating area, there is no roof or ceiling enclosure, and the smoking area is clearly marked and is three feet from the non-smoking area.
- To learn more about information about the Expanded Clean Indoor Air Act, call 1-800-458-1158, Ext. 2-7600 or contact your local health department or district health office or visit www.health.state.ny.us.
- If you smoke and want to quit, or to support your employees, clients or patrons who want to quit call the New York State Smokers' Quit Line at 1-866-NY-QUITS (1-866-697-8487) for free helpful information, or visit www.nysmokefree.com.

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