



## Dangers of Third-hand Smoke

**A 100% smoke free environment is the most effective way to eliminate the presence of tobacco.<sup>3</sup>**

### What is third-hand smoke?

- ❖ Third-hand smoke is the residual tobacco toxins that remain after the cigarette is extinguished.<sup>1</sup>
- ❖ Third-hand smoke is what you smell when a smoker gets in an elevator after smoking or entering a room where someone has smoked.<sup>2</sup>
- ❖ Among the substances in third-hand smoke are hydrogen cyanide, used in chemical weapons; butane, used in lighter fluid; toluene, found in paint thinners; arsenic lead, carbon monoxide, and others.<sup>2</sup>

### What third-hand smoke means for you and your condominium:

- ❖ Removing these toxins from surfaces such as a carpet with long term exposure, is nearly impossible.<sup>3</sup> A study done in 2010 found that third-hand smoke remained in a home for two months after smokers moved out.<sup>4</sup>
- ❖ In buildings where substantial smoking has occurred, replacing furnishings, carpets, and wallboards can significantly reduce exposures.<sup>5</sup>
- ❖ Children and infants are especially susceptible to third-hand smoke because they breathe near, crawl, play on, touch and mouth contaminated surfaces.<sup>1</sup>

**Implementation of a 100% smoke-free environment, through the elimination of the primary smoking source, is the most effective tobacco control measure.<sup>5</sup>**

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