SMOKE FREE MULTI·UNIT HOUSING NORTH·CAROLINA

Home Fires and Smoking: Key Facts

- Smoking is the #1 cause of home fire deaths in the United States.

- About 1,000 Americans are killed annually in home fires caused by cigarettes.

- Any lighted tobacco product that is not discarded in a proper way can start a fire—even those that are made to be "fire-safe."

- In 2010, home fires cost $6.9 billion in property damages nationally.

Smoke-free policies in multi-unit housing promote safety by reducing the top cause of home fires: smoking indoors.

State of North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Social Services
www.ncdhhs.gov •
http://www.tobaccopreventionandcontrol.ncdhhs.gov/

N.C. DHHS is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

North Carolina Fires

2013: Two separate house fires in Asheville killed one person and injured another, who suffered burns to the face. Both fires were caused by cigarette smoking.

2011: Three separate apartment fires in Raleigh damaged units and displaced dozens of residents from their homes. Indoor smoking or smoking materials that were not put-out properly caused all three fires.

2010: A fire in a Wilmington housing complex killed one young woman, injured four, and displaced residents from all 16 units. Firefighters determined that a cigarette that was not put-out properly caused the fire.