

# WHY GO SMOKE-FREE? IT'S GOOD BUSINESS SENSE.

## BUSINESSES AND EMPLOYERS NEED TO CLEAR THE AIR.

### Healthier, more productive employees

- Secondhand smoke costs the U.S. economy about \$4.6 billion in lost wages every year.
- Employees who take four 10-minute breaks a day to smoke actually work one month less per year than workers who don't take smoking breaks.
- On average, smokers miss 6.2 days of work per year due to sickness, compared to nonsmokers, who miss 3.9 days of work per year.

### Save money

- Smoking in the workplace means higher expenses to your business for cleaning, maintenance, and property insurance.
- Many insurers offer discounts for businesses that provide smoke-free environments.
- Employers pay on average \$490 in extra annual medical expenses to cover employees who are regularly exposed to secondhand smoke.

**“YOU NEVER SAW ANYBODY FIGHT A SMOKE-FREE MEASURE AS HARD AS I DID. BUT YOU KNOW WHAT? I WAS WRONG.”**

**CHAD VANDAALWYK,**  
THE 10TH FRAME, APPLETON, WI

### There are tools to help make your business smoke-free

- Make It Your Business: Strategies for a Tobacco-Free Workplace in Wisconsin can help you:
  - Go tobacco-free
  - Help interested employees quit using tobacco
- Order or download this toolkit online at [www.tobwis.org](http://www.tobwis.org) in the “Employees & Business Owners” section.

## MYSMOKEFREESTORY.COM

Information for this fact sheet came from Make it Your Business: Strategies for a Tobacco-Free Workplace in Wisconsin.

This resource was created by the Tobacco Control Resource Center for Wisconsin • [www.tobwis.org](http://www.tobwis.org)



**GO ONLINE AND VISIT  
MYSMOKEFREESTORY.COM**  
TO DOWNLOAD A SET OF TIP CARDS TO HELP KEEP BUSINESS OWNERS AWARE OF THE DANGERS OF SECONDHAND SMOKE.