



Proudly part of

Panhandle

Public Health District

News Release

March 31, 2025

For more information, contact: Nicole Berosek, 308-279-3496 or nberosek@pphd.ne.gov

Multi-Unit Housing in Scotts Bluff County, Chappell, and Gordon Going Smoke Free

Residents in Scotts Bluff County, Chappell, and Gordon will soon experience cleaner, safer, and healthier living environments as several multi-unit housing properties implement smoke free policies. This initiative is part of a growing effort to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke, improve indoor air quality, and promote overall community wellness.

The transition to smoke free living is being embraced by property owners and managers who recognize the benefits of a smoke-free environment for their tenants.

“Secondhand smoke exposure in multi-unit housing poses serious health risks, especially for children, seniors, and individuals with pre-existing health conditions,” said Janelle Visser, Injury Prevention Coordinator. “By going smoke free, these properties are prioritizing the health, safety, and well-being of their residents.”

Research shows that smoke-free housing policies not only protect non-smoking residents but also reduce maintenance costs and fire risks for property owners.

Residents affected by this change will be provided with educational materials and cessation support to assist those who wish to quit smoking. Panhandle Public Health District (PPHD) and Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) organizations are offering resources such as counseling and nicotine replacement therapies.

“This is a significant step forward in creating healthier communities in Nebraska,” said Visser. “We commend these housing properties for taking action to protect their residents and foster a cleaner living environment.”

Panhandle Public Health District is working together to improve the health, safety and quality of life for all who live, learn, work and play in the Panhandle. Our vision is that we are a healthier and safer Panhandle Communities.