



PRESS RELEASE

Arbor Brewing Company Pub and Eatery goes smoke-free

Ann Arbor, MI July 10, 2009: Arbor Brewing Company is pleased to announce that we will be going smoke-free effective August 3, 2009. We are making this change in our operations in order to provide a safer and more comfortable environment for our customers and staff.

According to the National Cancer Institute cigarette smoke contains about 4,000 chemical agents, including over 60 carcinogens. In addition, many of these substances, such as carbon monoxide, tar, arsenic, and lead, are poisonous and toxic to the human body. Cigarette smoking causes 30 percent of all cancer deaths and 87 percent of lung cancer deaths and is responsible for most cancers of the larynx, oral cavity and pharynx, esophagus, and bladder. Secondhand smoke is responsible for an estimated 3,000 lung cancer deaths among U.S. nonsmokers each year and the risk of developing smoking-related cancers, as well as noncancerous diseases, increases with total lifetime exposure to cigarette smoke.

We believe that allowing this known carcinogen in the workplace creates an unhealthy work environment. We don't believe that employees should ever have to choose between their health and a job they love and/or need. The issue has weighed more heavily on our minds in recent years as frankly our staff is growing up and starting families of their own. We have had 3 staff members work at the pub through their pregnancies and a fourth is due at the end of this month. And with more and more people in the US developing asthma each year, we would hate to be in a position where a valued long-term employee had to leave to avoid exposure to second-hand smoke.

We have also gotten a lot of feedback from non-smoking guests who point out the folly of trying to contain cigarette smoke. Smoke wafts out of the smoking section into the non-smoking dining room. Plus, our barrier free restrooms are located in the back of our Game Room which has traditionally served as our smoking section requiring anyone who can't easily navigate stairs to go through smoking to use the facilities. They have also pointed out the fact that it seems incongruous for ABC to be so committed to the environment and to cater so heavily to a green, health-conscious clientele and not provide a smoke-free environment.

We decided to make the transition while the weather is nice in the hopes that having the patio available will help to ease the transition. We plan to continue to allow smoking on the patio. In the winter when our patio is closed, we plan to make some sort of outdoor accommodation for people who want to step outdoors for a quick smoke though the plans for that are have not yet been finalized.