



Tobacco Free Ohio State Talking with Individuals Who Use Tobacco on University Property

Ohio State strives to enhance the general health and wellbeing of its faculty, staff, students and visitors, to become the world's healthiest university. We desire to support individuals to be tobacco free, achieve their highest state of health and to launch students into their careers at a high level of health and wellbeing. To support this commitment, we intend to provide a tobacco free environment. Smoking and the use of tobacco are prohibited in or on all university owned, operated or leased property including vehicles.

Following are scenarios and suggested verbal messages to help members of the Ohio State community talk with individuals who use tobacco on university property. Ohio State expects all members to be respectful and courteous when approaching someone using tobacco products on campus. If the tobacco user becomes agitated or hostile, please do not escalate the situation. Simply walk away.

Situation: You see a person using tobacco products on campus.

Response: "Hello, my name is _____ and I am an (employee, student) here at Ohio State. I want to let you know that we are now a tobacco free campus, meaning that using tobacco products is prohibited on our grounds. This policy went into effect on January 1. Thanks for your cooperation."

Question: "Where am I allowed to smoke?"

Response: "Ohio State became a tobacco free campus on January 1st prohibiting tobacco use of any kind. The use of tobacco products is not allowed anywhere on the campus. If you choose to smoke or use tobacco products, you will need to leave the campus. Thank you for respecting our policy."

Situation: Making arrangements with a vendor or contractor.

Communication: "I'd like to let you know that Ohio State is a tobacco free environment. We respectfully ask that representatives from your organization refrain from using tobacco products on our property, grounds or parking areas. We have employees, students and patients who are trying to quit using tobacco and want to create an environment that will help them in their cessation efforts."

Situation: Giving notice to prospective students and their families.

Communication: You want to proactively communicate the Tobacco Free Ohio State initiative to prospective employees and prospective students and their families, prior to visiting Ohio State campus: "I'd like to let you know in advance of your visit that Ohio State is a tobacco free environment. The use of tobacco products is not allowed on our property, grounds or parking areas. Thank you for respecting our policy."