



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

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The university strives to enhance the general health and wellbeing of its faculty, staff, students, and visitors, and desires to support members of the university community, and those who are on university property in becoming tobacco free. To support this commitment, the university is 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 university community talk with individuals observed using tobacco on university property. The university 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 our campus is tobacco free, which means that using tobacco products is prohibited on our grounds. Thanks for your cooperation.”

**Question: “Where am I allowed to smoke?”**

**Response:** 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 your organization’s representatives 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 we want to create an environment that will help them in their cessation efforts.”

**Situation: Giving notice to prospective students and their families.**

**Communication:** Prior to their campus visit(s) you want to proactively communicate the [Tobacco Free](#) policy to prospective employees, and prospective students and their families. “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.”