

Frequently Asked Questions

When was smoking banned from the Pearl Street Mall?

The ordinance banning smoking on the Pearl Street Mall was passed by City Council Dec. 18, 2012. The ordinance went into effect on Jan. 18, 2013. Enforcement of the smoking ban began Apr. 1, 2013.

Where is the smoke-free zone?

The ordinance bans all smoking between 11th and 15th streets on the Pearl Street Mall, and on the lawn of the Boulder County Courthouse.

Are there designated smoking areas around the mall?

When considering a place to smoke, there are no specifically designated smoking areas. It's important to know that smoking is not allowed on the Pearl Street Mall, from 11th and 15th street, or on the Boulder County Courthouse property. The Colorado Clean Indoor Air Act and City of Boulder code also require people to be more than 15 feet away from entryways when smoking.

What is the penalty for smoking on the Pearl Street Mall?

The maximum penalty for a first or second offense within two years is a fine of \$500; a third and subsequent conviction within two years triggers the general penalty provision of a maximum \$1,000 fine and/or maximum of 90 days in jail.

What has the City of Boulder done to enforce the ban?

Using local law enforcement along with educational campaigns, the City of Boulder is making a collaborative effort to educate the public about the ban. Custom, "no smoking" signs were installed around the length of the mall, according to mall standards. Mints are provided to local businesses with the "no smoking message" displayed on the packaging.

Where can I find smoking cessation resources?

Boulder County Public Health website for smoking cessation resources:

Visit: www.bouldercounty.org/family/healthyhome/pages/smokefree.aspx

Call: Tobacco Education & Prevention Program (TEPP) 303-413-7567

Stop by: 3482 Broadway, Boulder, CO 80304

Kick-off Celebration Event

A celebration event will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Friday, April 12, on the 1300 block of the Pearl Street Mall, where county, city and Downtown Boulder Inc. (DBI) staff will be available to answer questions about the smoking ban, hand out mints and information, and provide free resources available for smoking cessation programs.