

Smoke and Vape-Free Outdoor Dining in Maine

What your business needs to know



Smoking and vaping are not allowed in outdoor dining areas.

22 M.R.S.A. §1550

Who Must Comply

This law applies to any business that serves food or drinks to the public, including:



Restaurants and bars



Camps and campgrounds



Cafés and coffee shops



Catering operations



Food trucks and mobile vendors



Public areas



School or workplace dining areas

See [22 M.R.S.A. §2491](#) for full definition of "eating establishment"

Why It Matters

Secondhand smoke contains harmful chemicals, and there is **no safe level of exposure**.

Smoke-free outdoor dining protects patrons, workers, and children from secondhand smoke while supporting a comfortable dining experience that many customers already prefer.

The Law Applies To You If:


- ✓ You serve food or drinks **and**
- ✓ You have an outdoor area where customers can eat or drink

What is Required by Law

- 1 Do not allow smoking or vaping in outdoor dining areas
- 2 Keep these areas smoke-free whenever food or drinks are prepared, served, or consumed
- 3 **Post signage** to inform patrons that smoking or vaping is not allowed in outdoor dining or drinking areas

Signs must include at least one or more of the following:

“No Smoking” “No Smoking or Vaping”

International no-smoking symbol 

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i Definition of Smoking

For purposes of this law, “smoking” includes:

- ✓ Carrying or using a lighted or heated cigarette, cigar, or pipe
- ✓ Use of an electronic smoking device, including all vaping devices
- ✓ Use of any lighted or heated tobacco, synthetic tobacco, e-liquids, cannabis, or plant derived product intended for inhalation



Enforcement Penalties

A violation is a civil offense and may result in fines of \$100 to \$1,500 per violation.

This guide summarizes Maine’s Smoke-Free Air Act (22 M.R.S.A. §1550), including provisions commonly referred to as Maine’s Outdoor Dining Law, as well as related compliance guidance from the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services.

