



Starting January 1, 2015, Scotland County Hospital & Clinics will no longer allow tobacco use of any kind, including e-cigarettes, on campus as well as the clinics in Wyaconda and Lancaster. The new Tobacco & Smoke Free Campus Policy will prohibit smoking on all Scotland County Hospital property, including inside buildings or on the grounds, parking lots, curbside waiting areas and surrounding campus grounds.

The board passed this policy at the October 2014 meeting and had been discussing this policy change for nearly a year. The board and administration was motivated to take the action in order to promote good health, create a healthy environment, and boost staff productivity. Of great concern is the negative message all visitors, especially children and young adults, experience when a health care facility validates a deadly practice by allowing it.

“As a healthcare organization, we are committed to the health and safety of our employees, patients and visitors,” says Randy Tobler, MD, Interim CEO. “Our decision to go tobacco free is not an attempt to strong-arm anyone to quit using tobacco products, but rather the tobacco free initiative is a concrete way to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to good health practices.”

Tracy Simpson, CRT, RCP, Cardiopulmonary Department Supervisor and an American Lung Association Certified Freedom From Smoking Facilitator is offering smoking cessation classes that are open to the public, beginning on January 6th. "For those trying to quit, we realize that giving up smoking is difficult. Most tobacco users must try repeatedly to quit before they succeed," said Simpson. "To assist those who want to quit, we have smoking cessation resources for the public and employees that take the hospital's health insurance have additional resources to help quit."





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