

Smoking Sheds and Shelters

The Building Division enforces codes that promote health, safety, and property protection. This includes small buildings to high rise structures. It also includes what has commonly been referred to as smoking sheds or shelters. These shelters have recently become popular because of a State statute that limits smoking in public places.

Regardless of size these structures must be permitted and comply with building, fire, zoning, and site rules. The building is treated the same as any other occupied commercial structure. As part of the process you will submit an application, site plans, and stamped (Montana licensed architect or engineer) drawings. When purchasing a shed make sure it will comply with the state and local building codes.

The building may be attached or detached provided it meets code. That may mean fire-rated construction and provisions to make it accessible to persons with physical disabilities. It must also be designed for snow and wind loads including a designed method of anchoring the building. The shed could have electrical wiring but should not be heated unless you can show compliance with the energy code.

If you have a question, please call us at 657-8270 or 657-8277. We cannot answer questions related to what is considered enclosed, as this is a State requirement and not part of the building code.

This handout is for information purposes only. It should not be considered as a substitute for compliance with locally adopted codes or ordinances.