Snuffing out an unhealthy habit in Singapore

Benson Ang
Lifestyle Correspondent

Orchard Road is a no-smoking zone, as part of the Government’s crackdown on the unhealthy habit. Insight looks at the measures so far and what lies ahead.

It is a typical scene at coffee shops across the island. At 10.30am, just before lunchtime, customers are seen chatting, enjoying their morning coffee and smoking. While it may seem like a harmless occurrence, smoking is responsible for a myriad of health problems.

The Singapore National Environment Agency (NEA) has proposed e-scooter and e-scooter riders to comply with smoking regulations. However, some riders have been caught flouting the law.

NEA officials have urged riders to comply with smoking regulations, as well as the smoking of e-cigarettes and tobacco products. Failure to comply with the regulations can result in fines.

Under the law, riders who fail to comply with smoking regulations can be fined up to $500, while those who refuse to comply can face a maximum fine of $1,000.

The Government has taken steps to reduce smoking rates in public areas, as part of its effort to create a smoke-free environment.

The NEA has been progressively imposing fines on e-scooter riders who fail to comply with smoking regulations. The intention is to discourage riders from flouting the law.

Source: The Straits Times © Singapore Press Holdings Ltd. Permission required for reproduction
The lowdown on lighting up

WHERE SMOKING IS PROHIBITED:

- Smoking is prohibited in the following areas:
  - Covered premises
  - Conurbant areas
  - Public parks
  - Residential areas
  - Non-residential areas
  - Tennis courts
  - Swimming pools
  - Public libraries
  - Hospital premises
  - Schools
  - Libraries
  - Theatres
  - Retail premises
  - Restaurants
  - Bars
  - Nightclubs
  - Cafes
  - Hotels
  - Motels
  - Car parks
  - Garages

- Smoking is allowed in the following areas:
  - Public spaces
  - Residential areas
  - Non-residential areas
  - Tennis courts
  - Swimming pools
  - Public libraries
  - Hospital premises
  - Schools
  - Libraries
  - Theatres
  - Retail premises
  - Restaurants
  - Bars
  - Nightclubs
  - Cafes
  - Hotels
  - Motels
  - Car parks
  - Garages

The social policy of smoking has
been a controversial issue for many years. Some people believe that smoking should be restricted to certain areas, while others argue that it should be allowed in public spaces. The debate continues to rage on, with no clear consensus on the best approach to regulating smoking.

Source: The Straits Times © Singapore Press Holdings Ltd. Permission required for reproduction