



*Scott Walker*  
Governor

*Richard G. Chandler*  
Secretary of Revenue

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CONTACT: Laurel Patrick, (608) 266-2300

## **Revenue Continuing Enforcement of Roll Your Own (RYO) Cigarette Machines**

The Wisconsin Department of Revenue (DOR) is notifying owners of roll your own (RYO) machines (including retailers, social clubs, co-ops, and other entities) they must follow state and federal laws and regulations if operating an RYO machine.<sup>1</sup> According to federal and state law, if an owner of an RYO machine or the owner's customers or members operates an RYO machine on the owner's premises to make cigarettes with loose tobacco, the owner of the RYO machine is a cigarette manufacturer. Under state law, such an entity is also a distributor.

The Department is taking the necessary steps to protect responsible small businesses that are following the state and federal laws and regulations. The Department of Revenue strives to enforce laws equitably to ensure businesses operate on a level-playing field.

The Department will be verifying that entities operating RYO machines have either:

- Obtained necessary permits and affixed cigarette tax stamps on all cigarette packages leaving the premises, or
- Removed the RYO machines from their premises

Failure to comply could result in fines, penalties, permit revocation, imprisonment, and/or seizure of the tobacco and other personal property used in this activity.

If anyone is aware of any retailer, social club, co-op, or other entity with an RYO machine who may not have complied with the above requirements, they should contact DOR's Alcohol & Tobacco Enforcement Unit at (608) 266-6757 or [DORAlcohol&TobaccoEnforcement@revenue.wi.gov](mailto:DORAlcohol&TobaccoEnforcement@revenue.wi.gov).

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<sup>1</sup> The only exception is for an individual who owns a machine and uses it only in his or her home solely to make cigarettes for his or her personal use or for other individuals who live in his or her home.