

DID YOU KNOW??

Facts you need to know about secondhand smoke

Secondhand Smoke and Your Child

Did You Know...?

- Secondhand Smoke, also known as Environmental Tobacco Smoke contains over 4,000 chemicals, over 40 of which are known to cause cancer.
- Secondhand Smoke is classified as a Class “A” carcinogen, a substance known to cause cancer in humans, by the Environmental Protection Agency, because it is so toxic.
- Secondhand Smoke is associated with and increases the risk for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).
- Secondhand Smoke affects a child’s intellectual and cognitive ability in areas such as math, reading, and reasoning skills.
- Secondhand Smoke is responsible for up to 1 million asthma attacks in children each year.
- Children who are exposed to Secondhand Smoke on a daily basis have more than triple the risk of lung cancer as an adult and an increased risk of other respiratory problems.
- Secondhand Smoke is responsible for between 700,000 and 1,600,000 doctor’s office visits each year for middle ear infections.
- Secondhand Smoke is responsible for about 15,000 hospitalizations of children each year and about 212 childhood deaths.



Each year, Secondhand Smoke contributes to between 150,000 and 300,000 cases of lower respiratory symptoms and respiratory tract infections such as pneumonia, bronchitis and other infections in children under 18 months.

Secondhand Smoke and Your Family



- Secondhand Smoke causes about 3,000 lung cancer deaths, 60,000 fatal heart attacks and 180,000 non-fatal heart attacks in NON-SMOKERS each year.
- Secondhand Smoke causes cancer and other diseases in household pets who are exposed.



For more information on secondhand smoke, click: <http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/library/secondhandsmoke/>