



# Kittitas County Tobacco Prevention and Control Program

Volume 4, Issue 3

**Inside this issue:**

- Tobacco Free Champions 1
- Synar Compliance Checks 2010 2
- Kittitas County TPCP in the news 3
- 2010 What's New 4
- Tobacco Prevention & Control Contract Information 4
- Quitline.com, No Stank You 4

## Kittitas County Tobacco Free Champions

In January of 2010 eight of the forty-six tobacco retailers in Kittitas County received certificates of appreciation from the Kittitas County Public Health Department. 7-Eleven at 1001 E University, 7-Eleven at 112 W University, Albertsons, Ellensburg Safeway Store, Super 1 Foods, 18th Street Deli, Sun Mart, and Happy's Market received the certificates in recognition for no tobacco sales to minors in the last five years during multiple compliance checks conducted by the Washington State Liquor Control Board or the Kittitas County Public Health Department. Retailers who did not receive recognition either did not have a compliance check in the last five years or sold tobacco to a minor.



Eric, Super 1 Foods Service Manager

**PUBLIC HEALTH**  
**ALWAYS WORKING FOR A SAFER AND**  
**HEALTHIER KITTITAS COUNTY**

## Compliance Checks 2010



Synar compliance check locations are in! Before the end of June 2010, Kittitas County Department of Health staff and a Youth Operative will visit about 25 tobacco retailers in the county, randomly selected, to try to purchase tobacco. Last year, random checks of 23 retail stores in the county showed that 91.1 percent of tobacco retailers refused to sell tobacco products to minors.

Despite significant progress, nearly one in four Kittitas County 12<sup>th</sup> grade students report that they have smoked cigarettes within the past 30 days. Tobacco use remains the leading cause of preventable death in the nation and in Washington State.

## Smoking In Public Places Law

### did you know?

People who breathe secondhand smoke at home or at work have 20 to 30 percent increase in the risk of lung cancer and heart disease



On December 8, 2005, the Smoking in Public Places law (RCW 70.160) went into effect, making it illegal to smoke in all indoor public places and workplaces in Washington. Since the law's implementation, indoor air pollution has decreased by 88 percent in bars and restaurants and compliance with the law is high.

On June 18th, 2009, Kittitas County Commissioners adopted a county ordinance for smoking in public places. The adoption of the county ordinance includes two significant additions to the state law. The county ordinance prohibits smoking wherever tobacco or tobacco products are sold and subjects locations in violation to the penalties under Title 18 of Kittitas County code, which will result in monetary fines.

Kittitas County Environmental Health staff are working with Tobacco Prevention and Control to draft a policy regarding enforcement. Ultimately, the goal of the health department is to ensure a safe and healthy public environment in Kittitas County. If you witness a Smoking in Public Places violation, register a complaint at [www.co.kittitas.wa.us/health/tobacco](http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/health/tobacco) or call 509-962-7090.

## Tobacco Prevention And Control In The Local Media



On February 4th, 2010, Mike Johnston of the Daily Record wrote an article "Health Department Targets Spit Tobacco," which highlighted the high usage rates of spit tobacco in Kittitas County.

Check it out at <http://dailyrecordnews.com/news/>

## Tobacco Prevention And Control Press Release

### Few in Kittitas County sell tobacco to minors

**Kittitas County, Wash.** --- Random checks of 23 retail stores in Kittitas County show that 91.1 percent refused to sell tobacco products to minors. In 2008 84.6 percent of tobacco retailers didn't sell to minors. The all-time high for compliance was 94.8 percent in 2006 when only 5.2 percent of retail stores checked sold tobacco products to minors. Across Washington State more than 90 percent of retailers correctly refused to sell tobacco to minors.

"Community businesses are doing the right (and legal) thing when they refuse to sell tobacco products to minors," said Cathy Bambrick, Director of the Kittitas County Public Health Department. "Addiction to tobacco products often starts during adolescence. People pay a steep price for this addiction, with long-term illnesses and shortened lives," she said. "If we want healthier communities, we must keep young people from getting hooked on nicotine."

Despite significant progress, nearly one in four Kittitas County 12<sup>th</sup> grade students report that they have smoked cigarettes within the past 30 days. Tobacco use remains the leading cause of preventable death in the nation and in Washington State.

For more than a decade, the Kittitas County Public Health Department's Tobacco Prevention and Control team has worked with the Washington State Liquor Control Board and youth volunteers to check retail stores for compliance with the state laws prohibiting the sale of tobacco products to minors. The teens participate with their parents' consent. The joint venture includes a strong educational component and technical assistance to store owners and their clerks to ensure their understanding of the law.

For more information about the Tobacco Prevention and Control Program or to report tobacco sales violations, call (509) 962-7515 or visit <http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us>.

## 2010 - What's New

For additional copies of this newsletter or for more information on the Kittitas County Tobacco Prevention and Control Program contact Kasey Knutson at 962-7515.

We're on the web at <http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/health/tobacco/>



## FDA U.S. Food and Drug Administration

### Regulations Restricting the Sale and Distribution of Cigarettes and Smokeless Tobacco to Protect Children and Adolescents

FDA is issuing a final rule that contains a broad set of federal requirements designed to significantly curb access to and the appeal of cigarettes and smokeless tobacco products to children and adolescents in the United States.

Published March 19, 2010, the new rule becomes effective June 22, 2010, and has the force and effect of law. Among other things, the rule:

- Prohibits the sale of cigarettes or smokeless tobacco to people younger than 18,
- Prohibits the sale of cigarette packages with less than 20 cigarettes,
- Prohibits distribution of free samples of cigarettes,
- Restricts distribution of free samples of smokeless tobacco, and
- Prohibits tobacco brand name sponsorship of any athletic, musical or other social or cultural events.

Quitline.com Washington State Department of Health  
TOLL-FREE 1-800-QUIT-NOW