

Secondhand Tobacco Smoke and the Health of Your Family



Make Your Home and Car Smoke-Free

Secondhand smoke is the smoke that comes from the burning end of a cigarette, cigar or pipe. Secondhand smoke can make you and your children sick.

Secondhand Smoke is Dangerous

Everyone knows that smoking is bad for smokers, but did you know:

- Breathing in someone else's cigarette, pipe or cigar smoke can make you and your children sick.
- Children who live in homes where people smoke may get sick more often with coughs, wheezing, ear infections, bronchitis or pneumonia.
- Children with asthma may have asthma attacks that are more severe or occur more often.
- Opening windows or using fans or air conditioners will not stop secondhand smoke exposure.
- The U.S. Surgeon General says that secondhand smoke can cause Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, also known as SIDS.
- Secondhand smoke also can cause lung cancer and heart disease.

Protect Your Family

- Make your car and home smoke-free.
- Family, friends or visitors should never smoke inside your home or car.
- Keep yourself and your children away from places where smoking is allowed.
- If you smoke, smoke only outside.
- Ask your doctor for ways to help you stop smoking.

Remember

Keeping a smoke-free home and car can help improve your health, the health of your children and the health of your community.

