



A Newsletter for Idaho Tobacco Retailers Sponsored by Idaho Department of Health & Welfare

Contact us: 208-334-6542

ID Tobacco Project Website: healthandwelfare.idaho.gov
Select the "medical" menu and then "Idaho Tobacco Permits"

Volume 13, Issue 6
June 2014

Facts and Stats

"A" average for May

According to Idaho Code 39-5701, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare must inspect each business that sells tobacco to ensure that it does not sell tobacco to minors. In May 2014:

- 163 Vendors were inspected.*
- 11 Vendors sold to the inspecting minor.
- The compliance rate for the month was 93.25%

*Inspections where purchase attempts were made.

Prevent the Sale Website

PreventTheSale.com/Idaho

- Learn about the law
- Take the tobacco quiz
- See what the IDs look like
- Play the Game "Would You Sell to This Person"

Written by Cheryl Reed

A Double Standard?

Walgreens

Beginning this fall, CVS pharmacies will stop selling tobacco products, making an important statement about the company's stance on promoting healthy life styles. Walgreens, on the other hand, donates funds to the American Cancer Society and promotes healthy living in the workplace—and is thus heavily celebrated for its philanthropy and philosophy while continuing to sell tobacco products.

Walgreens offers antismoking programs to its employees and customers and touts a corporate vision "to be the first choice in health and daily living for everyone in America" while raking in profits from tobacco sales. This practice, called "fig-leaving" is widespread.

Why is Smoking Such a Big Deal?

On average, smokers die 13 to 14 years earlier than nonsmokers. About 5.6 million children alive today will ultimately die early from smoking, equaling about 1 child in every 13 alive right now. Every day about 3,200 minors smoke their first cigarette, and about 2,100 become daily smokers. Nine out of 10 start before they're 18 years old. Smoking slows down lung growth in children and teens and causes many types of cancer including lung, throat, mouth, nasal cavity, esophagus, stomach, pancreas, kidney, and bladder, and also causes myeloid leukemia. Smokers are 30 to 40% more likely to develop diabetes.

More than 400,000 babies born in the U.S. each year are exposed to chemicals in cigarettes before birth. More than 100,000 of the smoking-caused deaths over the last 50 years were of babies who died from SIDS. In children, secondhand smoke causes ear infections, more frequent asthma attacks, respiratory issues like bronchitis and pneumonia, and an increased risk of SIDS.

Are these good reasons to prevent the sale of tobacco to minors? If you need more, visit the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](http://CentersforDiseaseControlandPrevention) or [Be Tobacco Free](http://BeTobaccoFree) websites.

Why are Cigarettes So Deadly?

Tobacco smoke contains a deadly mix of more than 7,000 chemicals. Hundreds are toxic, and about 70 are known to cause cancer. Here are some of the chemicals:

Cancer-Causing Chemicals: Formaldehyde: Used to embalm dead bodies; Benzene: Found in gasoline; Polonium 210: Radioactive and very toxic; Vinyl chloride: Used to make pipes.

Toxic Metals: Chromium: Used to make steel; Arsenic: Used in pesticides; Lead: Once used in paint; Cadmium: Used to make batteries.

Poison Gases: Carbon monoxide: Found in car exhausts; Hydrogen cyanide: Used in chemical weapons; Ammonia: Used in household cleaners; Butane: Used in lighter fluid; Toluene: Found in paint thinners.

True or False?

1. Idaho State law prohibits the sale of ANY tobacco products to persons under 18 years of age.
2. Verification of age is required for any sale of tobacco products.
3. Tobacco sales to a minor can result in a personal fine to the sales clerk of at least \$100.
4. All tobacco sales must be vendor assisted unless the store's merchandise includes 75% of tobacco products.
5. Cigarettes must be sold only in their original sealed package from the manufacturer.
6. Any store may be inspected at any time for compliance with the state law regarding youth access to tobacco products.

(All of the above are true.)

Child Labor on U.S. Tobacco Farms

Apparently children as young as 7 years old are working in tobacco fields, harvesting nicotine and pesticide covered tobacco leaves. Some Human Right advocates are challenging the U.S. agriculture labor laws that allows children to work longer hours at younger ages and in more hazardous conditions than children in other industries. There is no minimum age for children to work on small farms. Nearly ¾ of the children interviewed, many of whom were children of Hispanic immigrants, reported working long hours in extreme heat with no overtime pay or protective gear.

No Verdict Yet on E-cigarettes

The liquid smoked in an e-cigarette was found to produce tiny nanoparticles that that travel deep into the lungs and dissolve into the lung tissue. If it's found that these particles contain carcinogens, the e-cigarette may not be as harmless as originally thought. Initial studies found formaldehyde in the e-cigarette vapor. While probably not an entirely harmless alternative to cigarettes, the verdict is yet to be determined on whether or not the e-cigarette is more or less deadly than its cancer-causing counterpart.



Volume 13, Issue 6, June 2014

Contact us: 208-334-6542

ID Tobacco Project Website: healthandwelfare.idaho.gov

Select the "medical" menu and then "Idaho Tobacco Permits"

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO EMPLOYEES

What's Inside:

- The Walgreens Dilemma
- Why is Smoking a Big Deal?
- Why Are Cigarettes So Deadly?
- True or False?
- Child Labor Laws on Tobacco Farms