

Preparing For Your Annual Inspection

By Cheryl Dudley

Facts and Stats

“A” Average for JANUARY

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 JANUARY 2006:

- ❖ 53 Vendors were inspected.*
- ❖ 3 Vendors sold to the inspecting minor.
- ❖ The compliance rate for the month of January 2006 was 94%

*Inspections where purchase attempts were made.

Prevent the Sale Web site

www.preventthesale.com/idaho

- Learn about the law
- Take the tobacco quiz
- See what the ID's look like
- Play the Game “Would You Sell to This Person?”

Being Prepared for the Inspection Team

Inspection teams are making their annual rounds to tobacco-vending retailers. Are you prepared?

Businesses with tobacco permits are required by law to be randomly inspected at least once a year. The number of inspections required each year is based on the non-compliance rate for the previous year. Therefore, your efforts to prevent the sale of tobacco to minors ultimately helps you by reducing the overall number of inspections per year.

The **inspection team** is made up of an inspecting minor, an adult inspector, and an adult chaperone. Each member of this team has completed a comprehensive training program.

The Inspector

The Inspector oversees all inspections and issues citations. If a business successfully passes an inspection, the adult inspector will provide the clerk with a congratulations card, will report the results to the Department of Health and Welfare (DHW), and the business will receive a congratulatory letter. If the business fails the inspection, the adult inspector cites the clerk immediately. The business is contacted about the failed inspection by mail.

The Inspecting Minor

Inspecting minors are all under 18-years-old, and have been trained to never lie or trick the clerk. They never show a false ID to the clerk or lie when asked about their age. If the clerk refuses to sell tobacco to him/her, the minor leaves the store without any further incident.

The Adult Chaperone

The chaperone's job is to ensure the safety of the minor and the other team members and to assist the Inspector when needed.

The Clerk

When considering the goal of the Department of Health and Welfare in preventing the sale of tobacco to minors, clerks and vendors are the most important members of the “team.” As the first line of defense between teens and tobacco, your job is important. If you feel unsure about how to carry out this role, remember the following tips:

- Ask all customers for their ID and check it carefully. Know how to spot a fake ID.
- Know the law and work policies.
- Participate in job training.
- Refresh and retrain by visiting the Prevent the Sale training Web site

Good luck this year!

Decline in Teen Smoking Falters

A new Center for Disease Control report says that reduced state spending on youth tobacco prevention between 2002 and 2003 corresponded with a leveling-off of youth smoking rates after previous declines since 1997. On average, funding by states for tobacco prevention dropped 28 percent as states used money to cover budget deficits. Antismoking campaigns between 1999 and 2002, funded by the 1998 nationwide tobacco settlement, proved successful in reducing the number of teens who smoked.

"It does seem that the more [states] spend on tobacco-control programs, the greater the impact," said David Nelson of the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Office on Smoking and Health. "States need to support anti-tobacco activities. One of the key components is a media presence."

"This is an inevitable result of the cuts to state tobacco-prevention programs," said Danny McGoldrick of the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. "States never did a good job of allocating their tobacco-settlement dollars to reduce tobacco use. They've done even a worse job in the past few years."

McGoldrick said that if states would spend even 10 percent of tobacco-settlement funds on youth smoking prevention, they could make a real difference.

This research appears in the Oct. 28, 2005 issue of the CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report at www.jointogether.com.

Philip Morris' Real Name

In 2003 the Philip Morris Company, one of the largest tobacco companies in the world, changed its name to Altria. The company claimed the change was to clarify the relationships between its parent and operating companies.

Altria is the parent company of several well-known brands such as Miracle Whip, Maxwell House, Philadelphia, Nabisco, Gevalia, as well as several cigarette brands.

Many believe the Philip Morris name change, however, was to get away from the bad image of Philip Morris — a corporate image associated with deceptive tobacco practices and the death of one-third of its long-term users.

With the name change, Philip Morris/Altria has attempted to disassociate itself from its bad image, and now owns up to the fact that tobacco is addictive and dangerous. But that hasn't stopped its tobacco marketing efforts.

A split-up of Altria and Philip Morris is planned after the resolution of some major legal tobacco issues.

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**Prevent
the Sale!**

Newsletter for Idaho
Tobacco Retailers

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