

## ***Information on Young Lungs at Play***

1. Why should parks and playgrounds be tobacco-free?
  - a. Second hand smoke is harmful
    - i. Secondhand smoke contains over 4,000 chemicals; 2000 are poisons and 69 cause cancer.
    - ii. Children exposed to secondhand smoke are more likely to suffer from upper respiratory and ear infections.
    - iii. Secondhand smoke is especially harmful for children and adults with asthma and other chronic conditions.
  - b. Children Model adult behavior
    - i. When children see adults smoking in family-friendly places such as parks and playgrounds, they see smoking as acceptable.
  - c. Cigarette butts are hazardous
    - i. Cigarette butts are the most littered item in the world
    - ii. Small children can pick up littered cigarette butts and put them in their mouths, which can cause choking, burns, or nicotine poisoning.
    - iii. Cigarette butt cleanup is costly to taxpayers.
  - d. Small children also will pick up plugs of chew and put them in their mouths.
2. Protect the children  
Smoking where children play is sending the wrong message to our children. Send the right message. Smoking is not acceptable around children.
3. Protect our environment  
Cigarette butts make parks and playgrounds look dirty and cause leading damage. Send the right message, Smoking is not acceptable where children play.
4. Protect our Health  
Exposure to secondhand smoke can cause cancer, asthma, and other health problems. Send the right message, Smoking is not acceptable.