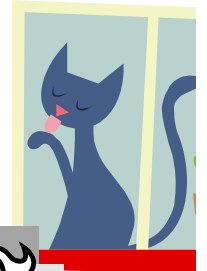




DON'T LET TOBACCO HURT YOUR PET!

When was the last time your pet smoked a tobacco product?

Did you know secondhand smoke is dangerous to both humans and pets? We spend millions of dollars every year on our pet's healthcare and food. Studies tell us that when our pet is exposed to secondhand smoke, it also is exposed to many poisons, some of which may cause chronic health problems or even be life-threatening. A pet is a loyal friend, so we owe it to our pet to learn all the facts.



How will my pet be affected by secondhand smoke?

Cancer - Some dogs (with short and medium noses) are more likely to have lung cancer, others are more likely to have nasal cancer. Cats, because of their grooming habits, lick up the cancer-causing particles that accumulate on their fur leading to oral cancers. Cats exposed to secondhand smoke are twice as likely to have cancer of the lymph nodes compared to cats living in a non-smoking home.



Asthma - Tobacco smoke causes wheezing, coughing, and breathing problems.

Allergies - If your pet is constantly scratching, has a runny nose or eyes, hair loss, or dry skin, it may be allergic to tobacco smoke.



Lung disorders - Birds have extremely sensitive lungs and are super sensitive to smoke.

Respiratory problems - Birds and other caged pets are especially prone to this health problem.

How will my pet be affected if it accidentally eats tobacco product?



I knew there was a reason I didn't like people smoking in my home.

If your pet chews or swallows a tobacco product, it may have vomiting, diarrhea, and stomach upset. **DEATH** is also possible if a pet eats tobacco products or tobacco waste. If your pet begins to show any of these symptoms, call your veterinarian immediately.

If you are a smoker and your pet is exposed to secondhand smoke, this might be a good reason to stop. We can help!

For information on tobacco smoke pollution, smoke-free home and car decals, and help to quit using tobacco, call Penn State Extension, 1-888-664-2248. For online help to quit, check DeterminedToQuit.com.

Courtesy of Westmoreland Drug and Alcohol Commission, Inc., a member of Tobacco Free SWPA

