



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

Volume 16, Issue 3
March 2016

Contact us: 208-334-0642

ID Tobacco Project Website: healthandwelfare.idaho.gov
Select the "Families" menu and then "Substance Abuse"
On that page select the box titled "Idaho Tobacco Project"

Facts and Stats

Grade "A" for February

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 February 2016:

- 80 Vendors were inspected.*
- 3 Vendors sold to the inspecting minor.
- The compliance rate for the month was 96.25%

*Non-minor Exempt Inspections where purchase attempts were made.

Prevent the Sale Website

Preventthesale.com/Idaho

Look for our new game, additional training and point-of-sale resources for retailers, and updated ID information!

How to be a Responsible Retailer

By Cheryl Reed

Many people who smoke today started smoking when they were minors. They didn't understand the power of tobacco addiction and how that first cigarette could lead to an entire lifetime of addiction and potential tobacco-related diseases. Many adult smokers wish they had never started smoking.

According to Idaho's Youth Risk Behavior Survey, just over 17 percent of high school students in Idaho smoke. Your job as retailers can have a powerful impact on the ability of minors to access tobacco products. As a first line of defense, your pledge to protect youth from tobacco products and refuse to sell these products is a proven method of defense.

Together, Idaho and the FDA understand the critical role that retailers play in protecting youth, and offers many resources to help shore up retailers' defenses. As retailers, you have access to training materials and resources that can ensure employees learn about and comply with state and federal laws that prevent the sale and distribution of tobacco products to minors.

The State of Idaho's resource for tobacco retailers is Preventthesale.com/Idaho. This website includes the state law, a training game, a retailer and employee training presentation, downloadable posters and point-of-sale resources, and much more.

The FDA offers webinars, training videos, and documents to guide and assist tobacco retailers in training employees. That information can be found at:

<http://www.fda.gov/TobaccoProducts/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Retail/ucm249332.htm>. You can also download free point of sale and training

posters and tobacco prevention materials online at:

<http://www.fda.gov/TobaccoProducts/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/ucm284328.htm>.

We are asking everyone involved with youth, including teachers, parents, doctors, and tobacco retailers, to make a pledge to protect youth from tobacco. While each person's role is important in the battle, tobacco retailers are a first line of defense. By saying "NO!" to the sale of tobacco, you are changing the life of a minor who doesn't understand the long-term consequences of tobacco addiction. Together, we can make a big difference and improve the health of our youth here in Idaho.

Tobacco Laws Protect Minors

The laws for the display and sale of tobacco products were created to protect minors from harm. Each day about 2,600 kids smoke their first cigarette and sometimes head down a pathway to addiction. Each day about 600 kids become addicted smokers, long before they even understand how it happened.

Here are some reminders of state and federal laws that protect youth from accessing tobacco products:

1. Retailers should check the photo ID of anyone who appears to be under the age of 27 and who is attempting to purchase tobacco products.
2. Retailers should only sell cigarettes, cigarette tobacco, and smokeless tobacco to anyone 18 years or older.
3. Retailers should never break open cigarette or smokeless tobacco packages to sell products in smaller amounts.
4. Retailers should never sell cigarette packages containing fewer than 20 cigarettes.
5. Retailers should never sell single cigarettes, also called "loosies".
6. Retailers should never give away free samples of cigarettes.
7. Retailers should never give away free samples of smokeless tobacco except from a qualified, adult-only facility.
8. Retailers should never sell flavored cigarettes or flavored cigarette tobacco (other than menthol).



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What's Inside

- Be a responsible retailer
- Tobacco laws

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