

Yuma Tobacco Asthma Coalition

Air Mail

"The Greatest Wealth is Health". Virgil

Quotables

"Do all the good you can
By all the means you can
In all the ways you can
In all the places you can
To all the people you can
As long as ever you can."
John Wesley

Legislative Update: FDA Authority Over Tobacco Letter sets tone for FDA's new role in tobacco control

The Food and Drug Administration

issued a letter providing notice to regulated industry that effective September 22, 2009, cigarettes that contain certain characterizing flavors are considered adulterated under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA or the Act), as amended by the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (FSPTCA). Congress has stated that flavors make cigarettes more appealing to youth and often result in exposure to additional carcinogens and other toxic constituents. The new law establishes a tobacco product standard special rule for cigarettes that prohibits

tobacco products from containing "...an artificial or natural flavor (other than tobacco or menthol)... that is a characterizing flavor of the tobacco product or tobacco smoke". As of the September 22, 2009, effective date, under the Act, adulterated products sold or held for sale in the United States may be subject to seizure and those that make, distribute and sell them may be subject to injunction actions, civil money penalties, and/or criminal prosecution. View the letter:

<http://www.fda.gov/TobaccoProducts/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/ucm182186.htm>

In this Update:

- FDA Authority Over Tobacco
- Open Airways
- Upcoming Events
- EPA National Survey
- Asthma National Forum

The **American Lung Association's Open Airways For Schools (OAS)** is an asthma management program for schoolchildren aged 8-11 who have been diagnosed with asthma.

The program's goals:

- improve asthma self-management skills
- decrease asthma emergencies
- raise asthma awareness among parents/guardians
- promote broader asthma management coordination among physicians, parents and schools

Information for Community Volunteers:

Benefits to community partners: opportunity to work with children and have a positive impact, publicity, and community outreach through an established proven program. If you are interested in becoming an OAS instructor or volunteering with the American Lung Association in another capacity please contact:

American Lung Association in AZ
2819 East Broadway
Tucson, AZ 85716
Phone: (520) 323-1812
Fax: (520) 323-1816
1-800-LUNG-USA

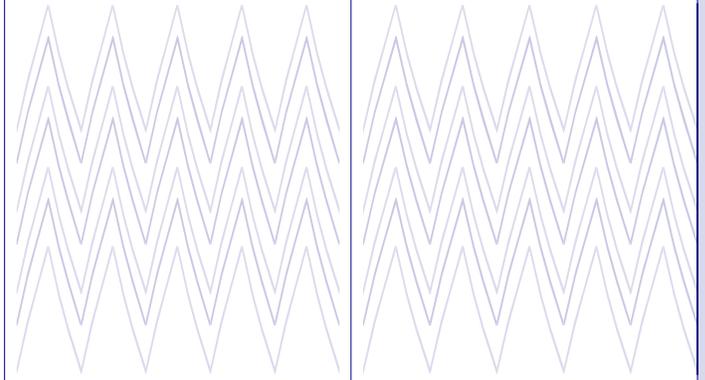


Events

Angeles del Barrio Chicanos Por La Causa
December 12, 2009, 9 am to 1pm, Joe Orduno Park, San Luis, AZ.

This celebration provides less-fortunate children of the community with gifts, interactive games, snacks, and much more. Agencies are invited to bring fun activities for children. This

event serves approximately 3,000 children. For more information call:
Ana Bribiesca
(928) 627-5050



EPA National Survey on Environmental Management of Asthma and Children's Exposure to Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS)

Importance of Survey:

- First ever national data on environmental asthma trigger awareness, actions taken to reduce exposure to environmental asthma triggers, and barriers to trigger reductions action.
- Updated information on all children's exposure to ETS.

The sample for the screening interview consisted of 14,685 households containing 38,209 individuals.

Some key findings:

ETS Exposure - Residence

- Parents contribute almost 90% of the exposure—followed by grandparents and other relatives living in the home.
- Children with asthma were just as likely to be exposed to ETS at home as children in general.

Asthma Trigger Awareness

- Approximately 77% of all people with asthma are aware of at least one personal trigger.
- While 98% were aware of at least 1

of the "top five" general triggers, only 29% were aware of all five.

Asthma Actions and Management

- Almost 98% of people took at least 1 action to reduce trigger exposure.
- Approximately 30% took all essential actions and had a written Asthma Management Plan.

Barriers to Action

- The most frequently cited barrier was that they were "doing something else" (but not the recommended action).

The Communities in Action for Asthma Friendly Environments National Forum **The 2010 National Asthma Forum will be held June 17-18, 2010, in Washington, DC.**

The Forum provides attendees the opportunity to discover best practices, explore the latest science, hear from leading asthma care programs, and develop leadership and action plans. Learn more at: <http://www.epaasthmaforum.com/index.aspx>

YTAC Members

- Yuma County Public Health Services ▪ **Regional Center for Border Health, Inc.** ▪ **Sunset Community Health Center, Inc.**
▪ **First Things First** ▪ **Yuma Regional Medical Center** ▪ **Somerton Middle School** ▪ **Alice Byrne Elementary School**
▪ **Arizona Department of Environmental Quality - Office of Children's Environmental Health**
▪ **Health Choice Generations HMO** ▪ **Campesinos Sin Fronteras** ▪ **Western Arizona Council of Governments Head Start**
▪ **University of Arizona M. and E. Zuckerman College of Public Health** ▪ **Child and Family Resources, Inc.**