

The facts about secondhand smoke (SHS)

- More than 50,000 Americans die from SHS every year¹. Of those, 3,000 American non-smokers die from lung cancer², and over 35,000 non-smokers die from heart disease³.
- SHS is classified as a Class A carcinogen, the most dangerous category of cancer-causing agents.
- Exposure to SHS increases a non-smoker's risk of heart disease by 60 percent⁴.
- More young children die from SHS than all unintentional injuries combined⁵.

Why smoke-free policies?

- They create a safe and pleasant environment for faculty, staff and students.
- They benefit all by eliminating exposure to deadly chemicals, and they help many smokers quit by reducing tempting environments⁶.
- More people on campus suffer from asthma, which is negatively impacted by SHS, than choose to smoke⁷.
- They reduce exposure to SHS by secondary and elementary students that are on campus daily.
- They reduce littering and maintenance costs on campus. Consider a recent report from Longwood College, Virginia ...the cigarette litter cleanup cost for last year was over \$50,000!
- **The Americans With Disabilities Act, which requires that disabled persons have access to public places and workplaces, deems impaired respiratory function to be a disability.** Maybe shouldn't use, but interesting...

Who supports smoke-free policies?

- At Utah State University approximately 80% of students would support a policy making the campus completely smoke-free⁸.
- Many colleges and universities all over the nation have gone smoke-free and others are implementing other stringent policies to restrict tobacco use on campus.

¹ National Cancer Institute. *Health Effects of Exposure to Environmental Tobacco Smoke: The Report of the California Environmental Protection Agency*. NIH Pub. No. 99-4645, 1999.

² EPA, "Secondhand Smoke: What You Can Do About Secondhand Smoke as Parents, Decision-Makers, and Building Occupants," (July 1993); National Cancer Institute, "Health Effects of Exposure to Environment Tobacco Smoke," California EPA report, July 18, 19997.

³ National cancer Institute, July 18, 1997.

⁴ British Medical Journal. "Passive Smoking and risk of Coronary Heart Disease and Smoking: Prospective Study with Cotinine Measurement," June 30, 2004.

⁵ Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Report, 1997.

⁶ Fiore MC, Bailey WC, Cohen SJ, et al., *Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence*. Clinical practice Guidelinee, HHS Public Health Service, June 2000. Phillip Morris Document #2025771934/1995.

⁷ Utah BRFSS, 1997- 2003

⁸ Utah Higher Education Health Behavior Survey, 2005.