



SMOKE FREE. Everyone Deserves the Right to Breathe Clean Air.

Clean Air KC Web Site Updated for the Metro

The Clean Air Kansas City Web site (www.cleanairkc.com) has a fresh face. The site has been updated to make it easier for metro residents and elected officials to access their city page for up-to-date information on smoke free activity in their community.

The site was created four years ago to provide a central resource in the metro for clean indoor air information.

Kirkville, MO Holds Election on Smoking

The Mayor in Kirkwood, Missouri, a community outside of St. Louis says they will proceed with a November 2009 vote on a clean indoor air ordinance regardless of whether St. Louis County also puts the issue on the ballot.

The measure is supported by Healthy Air for Kirkwood and it restricts smoking in public places and workplaces. It does not cover private homes, vehicles and outdoor locations.

Operators of eating and drinking establishments are attempting to put a competing ordinance on the ballot.

Liberty Clean Air Supporters Prepare for Election

Clean Air Liberty supporters are gearing up for a November 3rd election this fall. Residents who wanted a tougher smoke free ordinance collected signatures and petitioned the council to put a new and stricter ordinance on the ballot. If approved, the new ordinance would replace one adopted by the city council in March of this year.

The existing ordinance permits bars and restaurants that now allow smoking to have until April 9, 2010, to comply with restrictions. Also under the existing ordinance, smoking is al-

lowed in bowling alleys, restaurants that seat less than 50 people, bars that gross less than 10 percent of their revenue from the sale of food and on outdoor patios and designated areas in city parks.

If the ballot initiative is approved by a simple majority of voters in November, the new ordinance would take effect 60 days after passage. The ordinance would prohibit smoking in enclosed public places, including bars and restaurants and bowling alleys. Smoking would continue to be allowed on outdoor patios and designated areas in city parks.

HUD Wants Smoking Policies for Public Housing

On July 17, the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development issued a memo encouraging Public Housing Authorities to adopt or implement non-smoking policies throughout public housing units.


According to HUD, second hand smoke or environmental tobacco smoke is able to travel among units in multi-family housing leaving residents at a greater risk of heart disease, respiratory illness and addi-

tional tobacco related chronic illnesses including cancer. HUD believes that with implementation of non-smoking policies throughout PHAs there will be an increase of public health protection for their residents.

Additionally, these policies have the potential to help cut costs by reducing the effects of cigarette smoking upon the buildings and decreasing the chance of fire.

CAKCC is now on Face book and MySpace, make sure to check us out at
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2255220191>
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Analysis Finds Toxic Substances in Electronic Cigarettes

From the New York Times: July 23, 2009

Electronic cigarettes contain traces of toxic substances and carcinogens, according to a preliminary analysis by the Food and Drug Administration.

The findings, which were announced this month, contradict claims by electronic cigarette manufacturers that their products are safe alternatives to tobacco and contain little more than water vapor and propylene glycol, which is used to create artificial smoke in theatrical productions. When heated, the liquid produces a vapor that users inhale through the battery-powered device.

The agency analyzed 19 varieties of cartridges, which hold the liquid, and two cigarettes, one manufactured by

NJoy and another by One Smoking Everywhere.

The analysis found that several of the cartridges contained detectable levels of nitrosamines, tobacco-specific compounds known to cause cancer

The One Smoking Everywhere cartridge was found to contain diethylene glycol, a common ingredient in antifreeze that counterfeiters have substituted for glycerin in toothpaste, killing hundreds worldwide.

Dr. Sharfstein said the agency was not sure what type of effect the diethylene glycol and other carcinogens have on the human body when inhaled through electronic cigarettes.

The Electronic Cigarette Association, an industry trade group, said in a statement that the F.D.A.'s testing was too narrow to reach any valid and reliable conclusions.

Electronic cigarettes, which are manufactured in China, are subject to little quality control, Dr. Sharfstein said. Some of the cartridges that claimed not to contain nicotine actually did, the analysis found.

The F.D.A. has called electronic cigarettes drug delivery devices and said they should not be allowed in the country. It has turned away about 50 shipments of the devices at the border, but they still continue to be sold in malls nationwide and online.