Legal Age to Purchase Tobacco Products Raised to 21

In December, Congress passed, and the President signed legislation to amend the federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, and raise the federal minimum age for the sale of tobacco products from 18 to 21 years. It is now illegal for a retailer to sell any tobacco product – including cigarettes, cigars and e-cigarettes – to anyone under 21.

Retailers who sell tobacco products must comply with all applicable federal laws and regulations for retailers. By complying with these regulations, retailers help keep tobacco products out of the hands of youth.

According to the National Youth Tobacco Survey, 31% of high school students have tried a tobacco product. It is important for youth to remain smoke-free because 95% of smokers started before the age of 21.

Learn more at bit.ly/NYTS-2019

Source: National Youth Tobacco Survey, 2019
Summary of CDC Health Advisory Guidance for Using Rapid Diagnostic Tests for Ebola in the United States

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has recently allowed marketing of a rapid diagnostic test (RDT) to detect Ebola virus antigens (proteins) in human blood from certain living individuals and samples from certain recently deceased individuals suspected to have died from Ebola. The OraQuick Ebola Rapid Antigen Test is the first rapid diagnostic test the FDA has allowed to be marketed in the U.S. for the Ebola Virus Disease (EVD). The test provides a rapid, presumptive diagnosis that must be confirmed.

“The ability to use this test to promptly make a presumptive Ebola diagnosis could help providers to more quickly isolate patients and begin treatments that can be potentially life-saving,” said Acting FDA Commissioner Ned Sharpless, M.D. “Additionally, this device could be used to support safe and dignified burials while helping to reduce the risk of transmission during those burials.”

Ebola Virus Disease is a severe, often fatal disease in humans that can spread through direct contact with blood or body fluids or objects contaminated with body fluids, as well as from the bodies of those who have died from the virus.

Facebook and Instagram Ban Influencer Posts on Guns, Vaping

Facebook and Instagram already ban ads for guns and e-cigarettes, but now they're shutting down a loophole that let merchants pitch the products regardless. The social networks have announced that they're banning "branded content" (read: influencer posting) that promotes weapons, tobacco and vaping. This is the first time Instagram is limiting what influencers can pitch in their feeds, and it's considered overdue by some. Enforcement for the new rules should take effect in the "coming weeks," Facebook said. See the full article here.

Coming Soon: Modernization of U.S. Manufacturing Capacity for Influenza Vaccine

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued a six-year, $226 million contract to increase capacity to produce influenza vaccine in the U.S. The contract comes after the recent presidential executive order to enhance national security and the public health by modernizing influenza vaccines and technologies. The work will take place through a series of public-private partnerships – including Sanofi Pasteur, a global pharmaceutical company with U.S. headquarters in New Jersey. To expand and retain domestic influenza vaccine capacity, Sanofi Pasteur will retrofit vaccine manufacturing facilities in Pennsylvania. When the project is completed, it will double Sanofi’s influenza vaccine manufacturing capacity in the U.S. See more here.
MLK Teen Day Celebration to Feature the Movie “Harriet” at the Neon Movies

Public Health will present the [Teen Day Celebration](#) on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Monday, January 20 at 11 am at the Neon Movies, 130 E. Fifth St., Dayton.

This annual celebration is in commemoration of non-violence on the national holiday for Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The program will feature the movie *Harriet*, based on the heroic life of abolitionist Harriet Tubman. The movie chronicles her escape from slavery and the dangerous missions she led to liberate hundreds of slaves through the Underground Railroad. The program will feature an interactive discussion designed to build upon the beliefs of Dr. King and the struggle for equality for all races.

This event is free and open to the public to the first 225 people in attendance. Moviegoers will also receive a free McDonald’s lunch provided by local franchise operator Debbie Wright.

**What:** The movie “Harriet”  
**Where:** Neon Movies, 130 E. Fifth St., Dayton  
**When:** Monday, January 20, 11 am

For more information about the program call Jennifer Boyd at 225-5878.

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**Be Ready for Winter Weather**

Although winter comes as no surprise, many of us may not be ready for its arrival. Stay safe and healthy by planning ahead. For a list of steps you can take, check out FEMA’s “[How to Prepare for a Winter Storm](#).”

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**WINTER STORMS**

**What Can I Do?**

- **Prepare Your Home**
  Make your home winter ready. Buy needed supplies before the storm arrives. Have a plan, in case you lose power or are unable to leave your home.

- **Prepare Your Vehicle**
  Make your vehicle weather ready. Be sure to include a safety kit, cold weather gear, and all the necessities you may need to deal with the storm ahead.

- **Monitor Your Forecast**
  Stay up to date with the latest forecast information as the storm approaches, monitor your favorite source for weather information.

- **Have A Plan**
  Before weather threatens, be sure to have a communications plan, change travel plans, and prepare for the impacts to your routine.

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**Know The Terms**

- **Winter Storm Watch:** There is potential for a significant winter weather event. Conditions are possible but not imminent.

- **Winter Weather Advisory:** Winter weather is imminent and may cause inconveniences.

- **Winter Storm Warning:** A significant winter storm is imminent and is a danger to life and property.

- **Blizzard Warning:** A significant winter storm with strong winds, snow, and low visibility is imminent and is a danger to life and property.

- **Ice Storm Warning:** Dangerous ice accumulations are imminent.

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[Visit FEMA’s Winter Storm Guide](#) for more detailed information.
Diversity and Inclusion at Public Health

Public Health believes the quality of its workforce and the services it provides will be enhanced by recognizing and embracing the differences in all of us. The community that we live in is increasingly made up of unique individuals that bring to us a variety of experiences, beliefs, abilities and knowledge. It is through understanding and appreciating these differences that we can make Public Health’s services relevant, valuable and respectful to all members of our community.

At Public Health we use the following definitions to guide our work.

Diversity: At Public Health, diversity means we are a workforce made up of unique individuals. Our differences include, but are not limited to: values, background, experiences, ethnicity, race, ability, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age, and socioeconomic status. This also includes varied perspectives, approaches and expertise of coworkers and the populations we serve.

Inclusion: At Public Health, inclusion means that all employees demonstrate behaviors that encourage respectful treatment of others, have equal access to opportunities and resources, and have their full participation and contributions solicited, acknowledged and affirmed.

We also believe there are many benefits to Diversity and Inclusion such as:

- Ensures Culturally Competent Services
- Improves Health Equity
- Creates Innovation
- Improves Employee Performance
- Leverages Unique Community Partnerships
- Improves Employee Satisfaction

Throughout 2019, Public Health worked to enhance its Diversity and Inclusion efforts by implementing or enhancing various initiatives including: Employee Diversity Training, Employee Resource Groups, Agency-wide Stakeholder Survey and an Employee Suggestion Box. The Diversity and Inclusion Committee and Champions will continue this most critical work in 2020 as we work towards becoming a more diverse and inclusive organization.

Learn more about our Diversity & Inclusion efforts at Public Health.

Media Opportunities:

WHIO on Flu (12/5/19)
DDN on Vaping (12/6/19)
WDTN on Infant Mortality Grant (12/6/19)
WYSO on Infant Mortality Grant (12/6/19)
iHeart Radio on Chronic Disease (12/11/19)
WDTN on Flu (12/24/19)
Outreach Opportunities:
2019 RTA Get Healthy for the Holidays at Greater Dayton Regional Transit Authority (12/20/19)

West Central Ohio Confirmed Influenza-associated Hospitalizations and National Weekly Influenza Activity Estimates

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<th>MMWR Week</th>
<th>40-48*</th>
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*Numbers may change based on updated ODRS data.

Submitted by:
Jeff Cooper, Health Commissioner
Michael Dohn, MD MSc, Medical Director