



# B I S M A R C K TOBACCO FREE C O A L I T I O N

Bismarck-Burleigh Public Health  
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## Bismarck restricts e-cigarette sales to minors

On February 11, the Bismarck City Commission heard testimony from area youth and Bismarck Tobacco Free Board Members on the need for a local ordinance addressing a legal age for possession and sale of electronic cigarettes. Valerie Schoepf testified on behalf of the Bismarck Tobacco Free Coalition.

Valerie informed the commissioners that “Youth are vaping at rates alarmingly fast,” and “according to the National Youth Tobacco Survey, youth having tried e-cigarettes went from 4.7% in 2011 to 10% in 2012 – that’s more than doubled.”

The North Dakota Health Department released local usage rates. In grades 9 through 12, 4.5% youth said they tried e-cigarettes in 2011, and 13.4% reported doing so in 2013. North Dakota’s youth rate of e-cigarette usage has tripled.

Youth from the Century High School Chapter of Students Against Destructive Decisions attended and spoke in favor of the proposed ordinance. Mandy Jordan reported “They (e-cigarettes) are unregulated by the Federal Drug Administration and contain cancer-causing substances.” She informed the commission that e-cigarettes are now being sold at kiosks where young people shop.

Amber Jordan presented the commission with a resolution signed by students who attend SADD chapters in Bismarck’s middle schools and high schools. The resolution supported a need to set a legal age for possession and sale of the e-cigarette and other e-products.

No testimony objecting the proposed ordinance occurred during the public hearing. The new ordinance was approved by a 5 – 0 vote. Bismarck was the second city in North Dakota to pass such an ordinance controlling e-cigarette sales to minors. Mandan passed an e-cigarette ordinance on March 4.



Valerie Schoepf



Mandy Jordan

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Coffee with Local Legislators

Tuesday, April 22 @ 7:30 am

BBPH

### Statewide Training for Tobacco Coordinators

April 30

Bismarck, ND

### Dakota Conference on Rural & Public Health

June 18 – 20

Grand Forks, ND



## Smoke Free Housing Bismarck attends statewide conferences

Smoke Free Housing Bismarck participated as a vendor at the 2014 North Dakota Housing Conference and also the ND Apartment Association Annual Conference. The new banner and booth materials were displayed and available for interested property owners and managers of multi unit housing. Many participants were interested in receiving copies of the model lease addendums to establish a smoke free building. The lease addendum can assist with clarity of a new smoke free policy and better enforcement of the policy. All materials for establishing a smoke free policy in multi unit housing can be found at [www.smokefreehousingND.com](http://www.smokefreehousingND.com).



## BreatheND

Saving lives, saving money. The voice of the people.

An initiated measure approved by North Dakota voters provides funding to Bismarck Burleigh Public Health to diminish the toll of tobacco in our state by addressing the number one preventable cause of death and disease: tobacco use.

### Bismarck Burleigh Tobacco Prevention Staff

**Pat McGeary**  
Program Coordinator

**Sue Kahler**  
Community Outreach Coordinator

**Diane Weixel**  
Office Assistant



## Kick E-Butts Day 2014

March 19 marked the nineteenth annual Kick Butts Day, a national day during which youth are encouraged to stand up and speak out against tobacco companies at more than 1,000 events from coast to coast. Susan Kahler, Community Outreach Coordinator with Bismarck Burleigh Public Health said that Kick Butts Day is a great way to educate youth in the community on the importance of remaining tobacco free and to inform everyone about the harmful marketing schemes tobacco companies are using to trap youth into using tobacco. Here in Bismarck, area students educated their peers about how e-cigarette companies are using the same slick tactics long used to market regular cigarettes to youth. Don't be fooled by flavors, celebrities and advertising claims.

The research shows that 600 North Dakota youth under the age of 18 become new daily smokers every year, and 14,000 youth will die prematurely from smoking. According to the 2013 Youth Risk Behavioral Survey, ND youth grades 9-12th smoking rates are 19% and 13.8% chewing tobacco rates. Students who ever tried e-cigarettes were 4.5% in 2011 and in 2013 it is 13.4%. For more information on e-cigarettes go to [www.breathend.com](http://www.breathend.com).



Horizon Middle School SADD Chapter