



Capital District Tobacco-Free Communities

Building Healthier Communities Where We Live, Learn, Work and Play

April 2021 Tobacco-Free Update

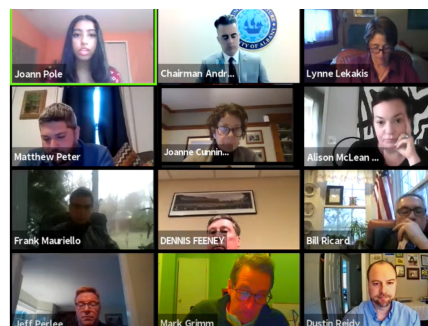
Tobacco Marketing

Take Down Tobacco National Day of Action

Capital District Reality Check members joined forces with partners in our state and across the nation on April Fool's Day to stand up and speak out against the tobacco industry for [Take Down Tobacco National Day of Action](#) sponsored by the [Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids](#).

Reality Check Member Joann Pole (top row, left) shared information about Take Down Tobacco Day and how the tobacco industry fools young people into trying their flavored tobacco products during a virtual meeting of the [Albany County Legislature on April 12](#).

To watch a video created for Take Down Tobacco Day by our Capital District Reality Check group to raise awareness about the problem of tobacco marketing in their communities, [click here](#).



Youth Engagement

Smoke-Free Movies International Week of Action

As the movie industry celebrated its best at the Academy Awards this past Sunday, we are revealing Hollywood's best-kept secret: "Smoking on screen kills in real life." The Surgeon General has concluded that there is a causal relationship between depictions of smoking in the movies and the initiation of smoking among young people.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, giving an R rating to films that have smoking, would delay the initiation of tobacco use among youth and prevent premature deaths from tobacco-related diseases.

To show your support for keeping tobacco images out of films rated G, PG and PG-13, please sign the Smoke-Free Movies Action Network petition by [clicking here](#).

To watch a video created by our Capital District Reality Check about the problem of tobacco imagery in the media, [click here](#).



Tobacco-Free Outdoors

Quitting Tobacco Can Save the Planet

Everyone knows quitting tobacco saves lives. But quitting tobacco production can also help to save the planet. The threat that tobacco poses to the environment extends far beyond the 4.5 trillion butts littered worldwide every year. The process the tobacco industry uses to farm, manufacture and distribute tobacco products consumes an enormous amount of precious environmental resources and generates an enormous carbon footprint.

As bad as tobacco products are, electronic cigarettes pose an even more serious environmental threat. Primarily composed of plastics and electronics, not only do they use more energy and resources to manufacture, but they leach far more harmful chemicals than the average cigarette butt. Further, the entire e-cigarette is non-biodegradable.

So if you smoke or vape and want to quit, you'll be helping yourself AND the environment. Call the NYS Quitline 1-866-NY-QUITS (1-866-697-8487).

For more info on the impact of e-cigs on the environment, visit [Healthy UC Davis](#). For more info on the tobacco industry's impact on the environment, visit [Truth Initiative](#).



Smoke-Free Housing

Local Law "I" Passes Unanimously

On Monday, April 12, the Albany County Legislature unanimously passed Local Law "I", which prohibits smoking and vaping in all indoor common areas of multiple unit dwellings as well as within 10 feet of any outdoor ventilation intake.

"Everyone deserves to work and live in a smoke-free environment. As property owners make changes to comply with Local Law "I", I hope they will consider making their apartments and condos completely smoke-free to create healthier places for everyone working and living in their buildings," said CDTFC's Program Manager, Jeanie Orr.

Read our [press release on Local Law "I" here](#). Visit our [Smoke-Free Housing page](#) to learn more.



CDTFC In The News

On April 1, The Altamont Enterprise published [this letter](#) to the editor by Capital District Reality Check member Raji Ramasamy about Take Down Tobacco National Day of Action. Check it out!

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The Washington Post: [Civil rights and Black health organizations press Biden administration to ban menthol cigarettes](#)

Business Insider: [The Biden administration is reportedly weighing restrictions on nicotine in cigarettes and a possible menthol ban](#)



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Please contact CDTFC via email: contact@smokefreecapital.org

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