

Join the
Tobacco/Cancer Coalition
for your loved ones
for your friends and neighbors
for your community
for yourself



If you are interested in becoming a member of the Somerset County Tobacco/Cancer Coalition please complete the attached response form and mail to

Somerset County
Health Department
Health Promotion
7920 Crisfield Highway
Westover MD 21871
Attn.: CRF Programs

or call
443-523-1760

Somerset County Health Department



Tobacco/Cancer Coalition

*Funded By the
Cigarette Restitution Fund*

Tobacco

Decreasing tobacco use is the single best strategy to reduce cancer, heart disease, and health care costs. Smoking harms nearly every organ of the body, causing many diseases. It



accounts for an estimated 438,000 deaths (nearly one of every five deaths) each year in the U.S. More

deaths are caused each year by tobacco use than by deaths from AIDS, illegal drug use, alcohol use, motor vehicle injuries, suicides, and murders combined.

Smoking doesn't just hurt the smoker. Infants and young children are especially vulnerable to the poisons in secondhand smoke because their bodies are developing.

The Health Dept. is working to help people stop smoking, protect children from secondhand smoke, and prevent teens from beginning to smoke. Through the Cigarette Restitution Fund, the Health Dept. offers tobacco mini grants for training, outreach, and public awareness. Local organizations are encouraged to apply for funds to provide services for community, schools, enforcement, and cessation.

For more information about the mini grants or to find out more about tobacco use, prevention, or cessation, contact the Somerset County Health Department at 443-523-1760.

Cancer

Cancer is the abnormal growth of cells in the body. Since the body is made entirely of cells, cancer can occur anywhere. The Health Dept. Cancer Prevention Program educates Somerset County residents about reducing the risk of skin, oral, prostate, and colorectal cancer, as well as provides colorectal cancer testing.

After lung cancer, colorectal cancer is the 2nd most common cause of cancer death for men and women in the U.S. To meet this challenge, the Health Dept. started the Colorectal Cancer Screening Program in 2001, funded by the Cigarette Restitution Fund. This program provides *free* colonoscopies to eligible Somerset County residents age 50-64, and to younger clients with a family history of colorectal cancer.



Colorectal cancer screening saves lives

Although the incidence of colorectal cancer is higher in African American men, **anyone can develop cancer and everyone should be tested**. A colonoscopy is a test that allows a doctor to look at the inner lining of the large intestine (rectum and colon). Colorectal polyps detected during a colonoscopy are removed, preventing nearly all cancerous growths.

For more information on program eligibility or to schedule an educational session, contact the Somerset County Health Department at 443-523-1760.



Be a part of a movement that mobilizes the residents of Somerset County towards health

Our Activities

- Meet quarterly to help identify and evaluate all publicly funded cancer programs in Somerset County
- Help develop comprehensive plans to address one or more of the following targeted cancers: breast, colorectal, lung, oral, ovarian, prostate, and skin
- Help identify, develop, and implement tobacco use, prevention, and cessation strategies for our communities and schools
- Assist in the evaluation of the process and effectiveness of local cancer and tobacco plans and provide feedback from a community perspective

Our Impact

Reducing the rates of colorectal cancer and diseases caused by tobacco use have a positive impact on individuals now, as well as future generations.

These impacts start locally and contribute to national and global goals.



What can you do?

Get involved! Join our local cancer/tobacco community health coalition to have a voice, and to learn how to win the fight for the health of everyone.



Maryland's Cigarette Restitution Fund Program (CRFP)

In 1998, forty-six states and the four largest tobacco companies (joined later by many other tobacco companies) settled a lawsuit brought against the tobacco industry by the states. In the simplest terms, the settlement was to recover costs associated with smoking-related diseases, and included yearly payments by the companies to the states, as well as voluntary restrictions on the advertising and marketing of tobacco products.

The states were given charge over how the money was to be spent. As did many states, Maryland launched a multi-pronged campaign to reduce tobacco use and its associated diseases and costs, in addition to attacking colorectal cancer, a major health issue in Maryland. With a focus on awareness, education, outreach, and prevention, and screening the CRFP is working to make Maryland a healthier place to live.

I am interested in participating in the Somerset County Tobacco/Cancer Coalition. Please contact me.

Name _____

Street/Box _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone — Home _____

Phone — Work _____

Phone — Cell _____

Email _____

Name of organization (or indicate if citizen) _____