Ten Things You Didn’t Know About Smoking

1. Every day, over 1,200 people die from smoking. That’s 443,000 people per year. In two years that is like losing the entire population of Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse, and Yonkers combined.

2. Cigarette smoking accounts for at least 30% of all cancer deaths.

3. Smoking causes cancers of the lung, voice box (larynx), mouth, throat, bladder, esophagus. Smoking is also linked to cancers of the pancreas, cervix, kidney, stomach, and some leukemias.

4. Smokers are about six times more likely to die from heart-attack as non-smokers.

5. Each day in the US, about 3,900 young people between the ages of 12 and 17 smoke their first cigarette. Each day about 1,000 young people become daily smokers.

6. Babies born to women who smoke during pregnancy have about 30% higher odds of being born prematurely and are more likely to be born with low birth weight. They are also more likely to die of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).

7. Every year in the United States, premature deaths from smoking rob a total of more than five million years from the potential lifespan of those who have died.

8. Tobacco use in adolescence is associated with many other health risk behaviors, including high-risk sexual behavior and use of alcohol or other drugs.

9. In the United States the amount spent on cigarette advertising and promotion by the five largest cigarette companies was over $12 billion.

10. A pack of cigarettes cost about 5 cents to make, yet most smokers spend well over $6 per pack in New York State.
10 More Things You Didn’t Know About Smoking

1. 219,440 Americans contract lung cancer every year. 159,390 (73%) will die because of the disease. Of those deaths, 87% (138,669) were smokers.

2. During 2000–2004, cigarette smoking was responsible for about $193 billion in annual health-related losses in the United States.

3. Smoking causes 1 in 5 deaths in the United States each year.

4. Cigarette smoke contains over 4,000 chemicals. More than 60 are known to cause cancer.

5. Each day, more than 3,500 people under the age of 18 try their first cigarette and another 1,100 become regular, daily smokers. About one third of these kids will die from a smoking-related disease in the future.

6. Smoking causes 174,000 deaths from heart attack in the United States each year.

7. Cigarette smoking is by far the most common cause of emphysema. Smoking is responsible for approximately 80-90% of deaths due to diseases of the respiratory system (COPD).

8. Smoking is the leading cause of fire death in the USA. About 1 out of 4 fire deaths in 2006 was attributed to smoking.

9. Cigars contain the same toxic and cancer causing compounds found in cigarettes and are not a safe alternative to cigarettes.

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