

What's Hidden in the Smoke?

Secondhand smoke contains more than 4,000 chemicals, which include 200 poisons, 60 **“Class A” carcinogens** [cancer-causing agents], and 18 chemicals that increase the risk of **birth defects**.

The following products contain the same chemicals found in secondhand smoke:



Arsenic
Poison



Vinyl Chloride
PVC pipe and garbage bags



Mercury
Found in thermometers



Acetone
Nail polish remover



Butadiene
Tires



Methanol
Rocket fuel and other various fuels



Ammonia
Floor/toilet cleaner



Ethanol
Alcohol



Butane
Cigarette lighter fluid



Acetic Acid
Hair dye / Vinegar



Cadmium
Component in batteries



DDT / Dieldrin
Insecticide



Propylene Glycol
Anti-freeze



Benzene
Rubber cement

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Clearing the Air about ETS

Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) or secondhand smoke is a mixture of the unfiltered smoke that comes from burning tobacco and the smoke exhaled by the smoker. Non-smokers who are involuntarily exposed to ETS are vulnerable to a wide range of adverse health effects, including cancer, respiratory infections, and asthma. ETS is the third leading cause of preventable death in the United States, claiming the lives of more than 53,000 non-smokers each year.

Secondhand smoke has more tar, nicotine, carbon monoxide, and other chemicals that cause cancer than the smoke that is inhaled by the smoker.

What you should know...

- ✓ A non-smoker who spends 2 hours in a smoky bar will have inhaled the equivalent of 4 cigarettes.
- ✓ Secondhand smoke cannot be controlled by ventilation, air cleaning, or spatial separation of smokers from non-smokers.
- ✓ For every eight smokers who die from tobacco use, one non-smoker also dies from a tobacco-related disease.
- ✓ Two-thirds of the smoke from a cigarette is not inhaled by the smoker, it enters the surrounding air.
- ✓ Nicotine can be found in the blood of a non-smoker for up to 40 hours after exposure to ETS.