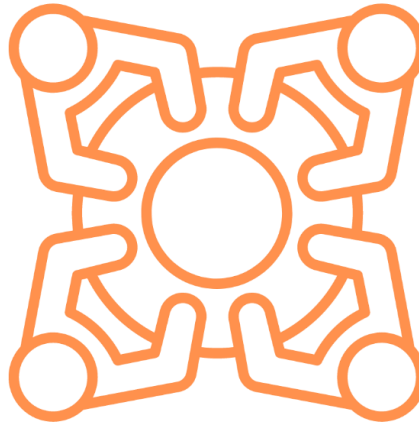


THIRDHAND SMOKE RESOURCE CENTER

POLICY ROUNDTABLE SERIES



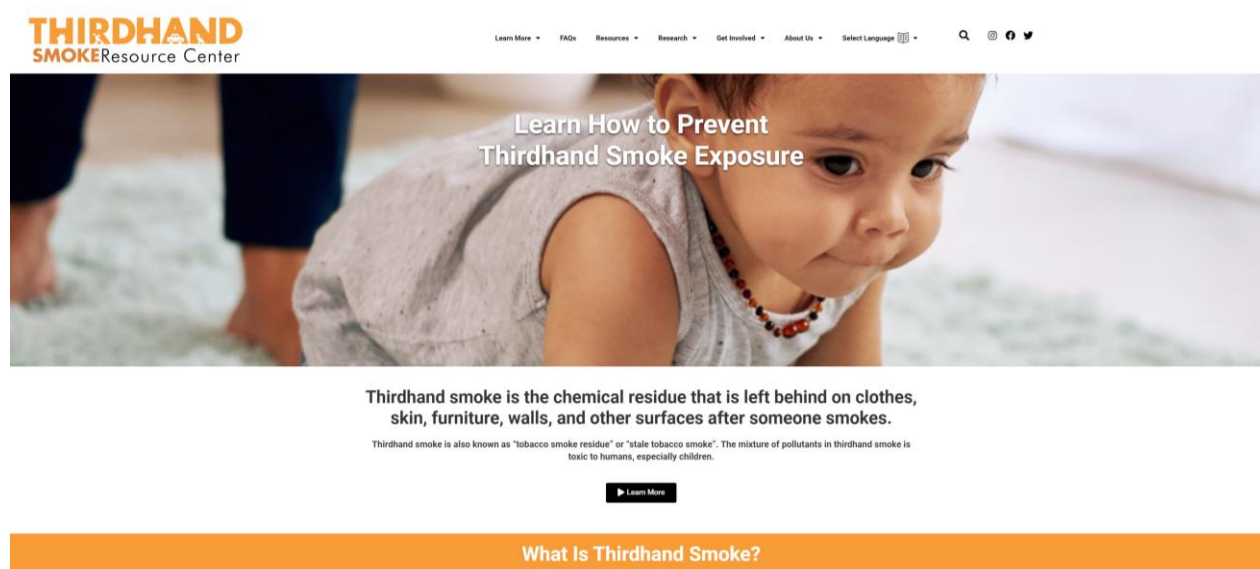
Tobacco Control Policy: Where does tobacco product waste fit?

January 18, 2023
9:30-10:30 AM PST

Nafisa Ferdous, PhD & Lydia Greiner, DrPH

Thirdhand Smoke Resource Center

Mission: To share **information, resources, and technical support** with California's residents, communities, businesses, health care professionals, and policymakers about the toxic legacy of tobacco smoke residue and to achieve **indoor environments that are 100% free of tobacco smoke toxicants.**



The screenshot shows the homepage of the Thirdhand Smoke Resource Center. At the top left is the logo "THIRDHAND SMOKE Resource Center". To the right is a navigation menu with links for "Learn More", "FAQs", "Resources", "Research", "Get Involved", "About Us", and "Select Language". There are also icons for search, Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter. The main content area features a large image of a young child crawling on a light-colored surface. Overlaid on the image is the text "Learn How to Prevent Thirdhand Smoke Exposure". Below the image is a text block that reads: "Thirdhand smoke is the chemical residue that is left behind on clothes, skin, furniture, walls, and other surfaces after someone smokes." Below this is a smaller line of text: "Thirdhand smoke is also known as 'tobacco smoke residue' or 'stale tobacco smoke'. The mixture of pollutants in thirdhand smoke is toxic to humans, especially children." At the bottom of this text block is a "Learn More" button with a play icon. The footer of the page is an orange bar with the text "What Is Thirdhand Smoke?"

Agenda

9:30-9:45:

Tobacco Product Waste: Research and Resources

9:45-10:15:

Breakout room discussions

10:15-10:30:

Regroup and report out

GOAL:

Share challenges, brainstorm together, and receive thirdhand smoke technical assistance

Thirdhand smoke


- Thirdhand smoke is the chemical residue left behind on clothes, skin, furniture, walls, and other surfaces **months and years** after smoking stops.
- The gases and particles in thirdhand smoke are toxic to humans, especially children, and pets.
- It's not strictly smoke, it's chemicals.
- People and animals are exposed by touching, breathing in, or swallowing contaminants

Tobacco Product Waste: It's not actually thirdhand smoke! But...

- Cigarette butts make up bulk of tobacco product waste: 4.5 trillion littered each year
- Not biodegradable—take up to 10 years to decompose.
- More than 95% of cigarettes sold in CA are filtered. Filters are cellulose acetate, a type of plastic.
- Break down into microplastics—remain in natural environment and accumulate in marine life.
- Microplastics get into food and water humans consume.
- Leach toxic chemicals into soil and water--nicotine, arsenic, metals, PAHs.
- Release pollutants into the air, affecting local air pollution levels

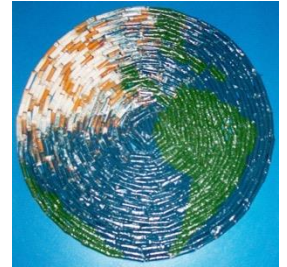


4.5 Trillion Discarded Cigarette Butts

1. 1 cig filter = ~ 1 inch = 2.5 cm 
2. 1 million cig butts = 15.78 miles = 25.4 km
3. 1 billion cig butts = 1,000 million = 15,780 miles = 25,400 km
4. 1 trillion cig butts = 1,000 billion = 15.78 million miles = 25.4 million km
5. 4.5 trillion cig butts = 71 million miles = 114 million km



Earth's circumference at equator =
24,901 miles = 40,075 km

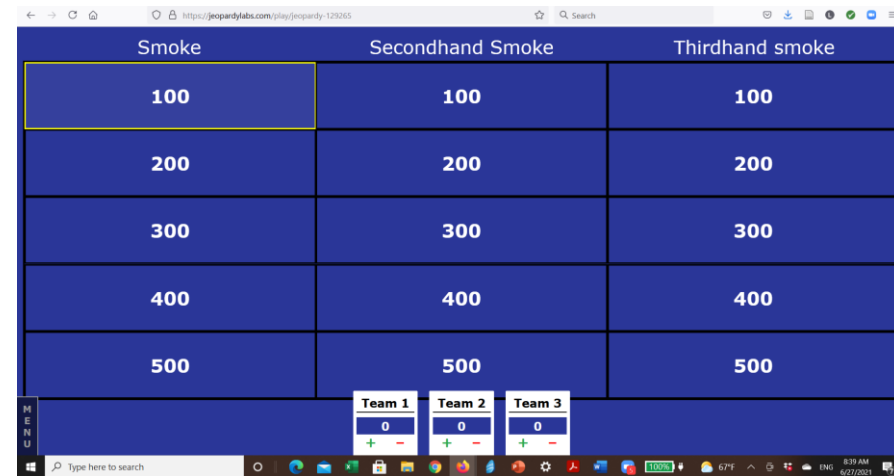


71 million miles \Rightarrow 2,850 Earth circumferences

Annually littered cig butts \Rightarrow 7.8 Earth circumferences per day

Tobacco Product Waste: Youth Involvement (1)

- 1) Life Cycle of Tobacco: A Case Study in Environmental Health
 - Environmental Health 101
 - Life Cycle of Tobacco
- 2) Tobacco and the Indoor Environment
 - Second- and thirdhand smoke
 - Health and economic impacts
- 3) Tobacco and the Outdoor Environment
 - Tobacco product waste
 - Environmental and economic impacts
- 4) Advocacy and Leadership
 - Critical review of regulations
 - Effective communication of data



The screenshot shows a Jeopardy! game interface with a table of smoke exposure levels and team scores. The table has three columns: Smoke, Secondhand Smoke, and Thirdhand smoke. The rows represent exposure levels from 100 to 500. Below the table, there are three team score boxes labeled Team 1, Team 2, and Team 3, each showing a score of 0. The interface also includes a search bar and a taskbar at the bottom.

	Smoke	Secondhand Smoke	Thirdhand smoke
	100	100	100
	200	200	200
	300	300	300
	400	400	400
	500	500	500

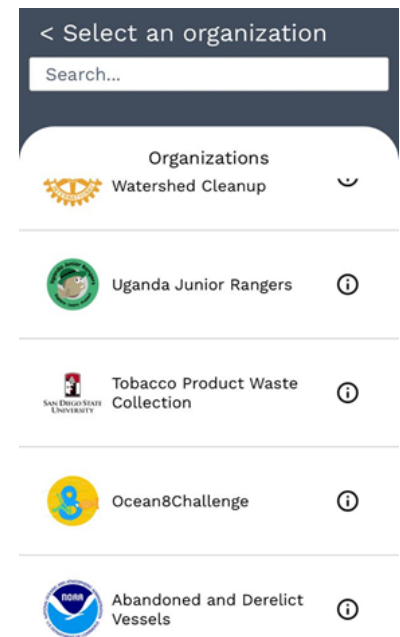
Team 1: 0
Team 2: 0
Team 3: 0

<https://jeopardylabs.com/play/jeopardy-129265>

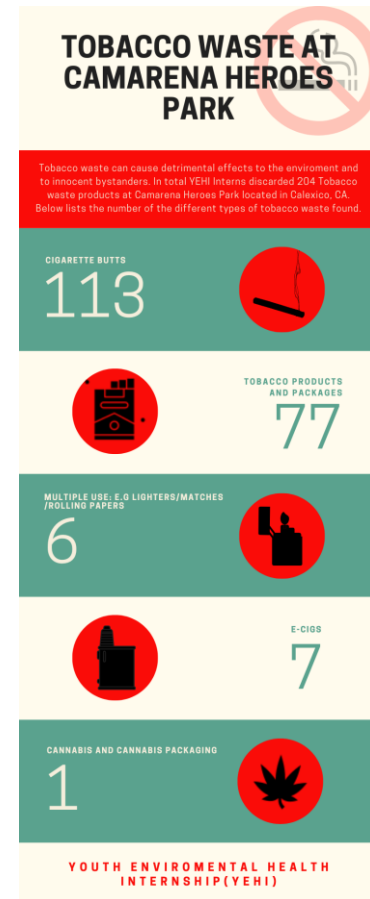
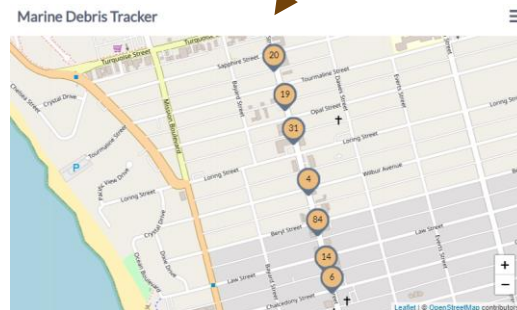
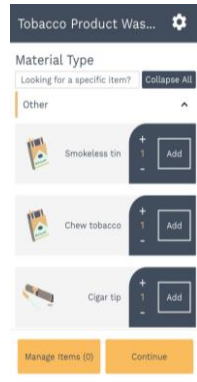
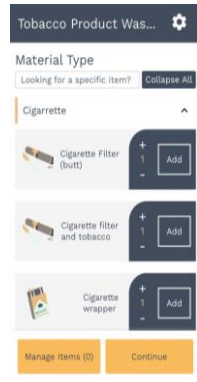
Tobacco Product Waste: Youth Involvement (2)

- Tobacco Product Waste Monitoring
 - Define question (e.g., Is there more waste around middle schools or high schools?)
 - Can use existing data or collect own
 - Count, collect*, and map tobacco product waste
 - Use standardized data collection methods
 - App-based data collection has advantage of immediate feedback and data mapping
 - Paper-and-pencil data collection requires manual data entry and report generation
 - Students can work individually or at scheduled group events

**requires training and equipment to do safely*



The Case of Imperial Valley



Tobacco Product Waste: Community Involvement

- Purpose of this pilot project is to develop a smartphone app for use by community residents and groups to learn about, monitor, and report tobacco, e-cig, and cannabis waste in their own communities.
 - Prototype Development Workshops (Fall 2022)
 - 12 +/- community organizations (2 volunteers from each organization)
 - App User Testing Sessions (Winter 2023)
 - 12 +/- community organizations (2 volunteers from each organization)
 - App Field Testing (Summer 2023)
 - 12 +/- community organizations (5 volunteers from each organization)
 - Volunteer training and support
 - “Adopt a Block” program



Time to discuss

1. What are your ideas about using tobacco product waste in smokefree policy discussion with decision-makers, such as property managers, elected officials, or community leaders?
2. In what ways could mapping and monitoring of tobacco product waste be used to enhance community engagement?
3. **BONUS QUESTION:** What do you see as barriers to using data about tobacco product waste as part of policy work?

Please prepare a 1-minute response for each question!

1-point take-homes

(Discussion with decision makers)

1. What are your ideas about using tobacco product waste in smokefree policy discussion with decision-makers, such as property managers, elected officials, or community leaders?

Group 1: Sharing information on collected waste captures attention of decision makers. Problem of waste tells DM about the overall problem, not just secondhand or thirdhand smoke. Offers new information on the impact of tobacco products on environment. Be able to show what the problem looks like locally -- where people are using tobacco, what products being used, etc. Important for elected official to hear from community members who have been involved in mapping/monitoring.

Group 2: Good way to get residents and youth involved; share observations and experiences. Some members from rural areas—app sounds cool but may need larger groups of people.

Group 3: To reach property managers, promoting reductions in litter and cleaning costs as well as downstream storm drain effective. "1 cig butt in a tank" killing a goldfish effective message (Novotny) also related to UN Plastics treaty discussions - link cig. butt waste to plastic pollution more widely (low hanging fruit)

1-point take-homes: (Community Engagement)

2. In what ways could mapping and monitoring of tobacco product waste be used to enhance community engagement?

Group 1: Any concerns with mapping/monitoring being a form of policing in housing? Need to be considerate about who has capacity to be able to monitor and track waste. For example, do property managers have the time/capacity to be able to collect information. Mapping/monitoring is a good opportunity to track where people are using tobacco in specific spaces.

-Good opportunity to invite community members to see what the problem looks like and how tobacco use and TPW continues to impact community spaces.

-Having an app can make it easier to engage partners to collect information.

Group 2: See question #1.

Group 3: Monitoring reminds people that just a clean-up event doesn't fix the problem. Another one is linking tobacco waste to environmental justice movement (tobacco tends to be left out). Integrate with EJ crowd. Engage high school students through college counselors (encourage mapping—college applications).

1-point take-homes: (Barriers to using data about Tobacco Product Waste)

BONUS QUESTION: What do you see as barriers to using data about tobacco product waste as part of policy work?

Group 1: Data use can get accusations of overreach, concerns that people focus on individual fines rather than tobacco company

Group 2:

Group 3:

Resources:

- Center for Tobacco and the Environment (2022) Tobacco Product Waste Product Guide
 - <https://merg.sdsu.edu/tpwr-project/community-resources/>
- Center for Tobacco and the Environment (2022) Tobacco Product Waste Pocket Guide
 - <https://merg.sdsu.edu/tpwr-project/community-resources/>
- CA DPH (2022) Tobacco Product Waste in California: A White Paper
 - <https://merg.sdsu.edu/tpwwwp/>
- Public Health Law Center (2022) Tobacco Product Waste: A Public Health and Environmental Toolkit
 - <https://merg.sdsu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Tobacco-Product-Waste-Toolkit-2022.pdf>

Thank you!

Contact Information:

contact@thirdhandsmoke.org



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