



Public Health
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Frederick County Health Department

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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TOBACCO MERCHANTS PASS RECENT ROUND OF COMPLIANCE CHECKS

FREDERICK, MD -- The latest round of tobacco merchant compliance checks found all merchants visited in compliance with the state law prohibiting sales of tobacco products to minors under 18 years of age. Conducted by the Frederick County Health Department, 10 businesses were checked and all 10 passed by refusing to sell a tobacco product to the underage volunteer. The merchant compliance initiative aims to reduce minors' retail access to tobacco products by conducting random merchant compliance checks. Funding for these activities is provided by the Maryland Department of Health.

The Frederick County Health Department would like to recognize the following tobacco merchants for their compliance with state laws prohibiting the sale of tobacco products to minors:

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7 Eleven, Store 1407	11922 Main Street, Frederick
Barnes Country Store	9711 Liberty Road, Frederick
Food Lion, Store 1216	231 Tippin Drive, Thurmont
High's, Store 31	304 North Main Street, Woodsboro
Lee Delauter & Sons	201 South Church Street, Middletown
Olde Towne Tavern	325 North Market Street, Frederick
Safeway, Store 128	151 Walkers Village Way, Walkersville
Trout's Market	3 North Main Street, Woodsboro
Urbana Fuel and Treats	8816 Fingerboard Road, Frederick
Woodsboro Liquors	601 South Main Street, Woodsboro

In Frederick County, underage volunteers assist in the execution of both alcohol and tobacco merchant compliance checks. All underage volunteers possess their valid, state-issued ID or driver's license, which is provided to every merchant who asks for identification. If the underage volunteer is asked their age by the merchant, they are required to reply truthfully. All underage volunteers are accompanied and observed by a plainclothes officer or health officer designee.

Effective October 1, 2019, Maryland will join 17 other states and more than 485 cities and counties across the nation by [increasing the minimum legal sales age to 21](#) for all tobacco products, including electronic smoking devices such as e-cigarettes, vapes, pod-based devices and e-liquids. Members of active duty military who are at least 18 years of age may continue to purchase tobacco products so long as they present valid military identification.

For more information about the Frederick County Health Department, Tobacco Sales Compliance Program, contact the Frederick County Health Department at 301-600-1755 or visit <https://health.frederickcountymd.gov/TobaccoMerchants>.

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