Pike County Health Department
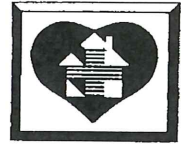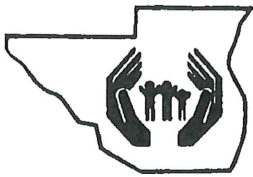
Katherine Rowles, RN, BSN, President, Board of Health
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HomeCare

Across Illinois

Letter to the Editor (12/1/16):

Administrative and Environmental staff at Pike County Health Department (PCHD) want to share information and requirements of the Smoke Free Illinois Act (SFIA). As of January 1, 2008, the SFIA requires that indoor public places and places of employment in Illinois be smoke free. This act includes requirements for signage and also describes how to lodge a complaint, the enforcement process, and how fines will be determined for violations.

Specific requirements about the law for workplaces, along with downloadable signs that meet the specifications, frequently asked questions, and resources for those interested in quitting smoking are available on the Illinois Department of Public Health website at www.smoke-free.illinois.gov.

PCHD is required to conduct random SFIA compliance checks on public places and places of employment in Pike County. Beginning in December, 2016, local health department Environmental Staff will initiate site visits to Pike County businesses to assess compliance with the SFIA rules.

Another project PCHD staff is working on is the Tobacco Cessation with Referral Partner Organizations project. Trained staff will reach out to potential partners (health care providers and community based organizations) to train them in the Brief Tobacco Intervention and register them as an Illinois Tobacco Quitline referral partner. The goal of this project is to provide additional resources to encourage tobacco users to quit.

Thank you for compliance and cooperation with the Smoke Free Illinois Act within our county. Please feel free to contact call 217.285.4407 ext. 136 if you have questions about the SFIA or if you have interest in quitting tobacco use.

Sincerely,

Mary Moss, MS, RD, LDN
Tobacco Grant Coordinator

Anita Andress, RN, BSN
Administrator