



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**CONTACT:** Guillermo Cole  
Public Information Officer  
412-578-8004  
[gcole@achd.net](mailto:gcole@achd.net)

**CRAFTON LATEST COMMUNITY TO MAKE PARKS & PLAYGROUNDS TOBACCO-FREE**  
*Protects Kids from Dangers of Second-hand Smoke While They Play*

**PITTSBURGH** – The Allegheny County Health Department and Tobacco Free Allegheny are pleased to announce that Crafton is the latest municipality in the County to join Pennsylvania’s Young Lungs at Play program by making its parks, playgrounds and outdoor recreational areas tobacco-free.

“We commend Crafton for creating a win-win situation for its youth. It gives children an opportunity to be physically active, which is important to their overall health and development, and takes away the poor example adults set by smoking in front of children,” said Acting Health Director Dr. Ronald E. Voorhees.

“Our goal is to get every municipality to join Young Lungs at Play so every community park, playground and outdoor recreational area is tobacco-free and a place where children can breathe fresh air and not be exposed to second-hand smoke,” said Cindy Thomas, Executive Director of Tobacco Free Allegheny.

Second-hand smoke is classified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as a class A carcinogen known to cause cancer in humans and can also cause serious illnesses in children such as asthma, respiratory infections and cardio-vascular disease.

Children exposed to second-hand smoke inhale many of the same cancer-causing substances as smokers. There is no risk-free level of exposure, and even brief exposures can be harmful. A 100% smoke-free environment is the only way to be fully protected from second-hand smoke.

Municipalities can obtain advice and assistance on adopting a tobacco-free ordinance for parks, playgrounds and outdoor recreational areas by contacting Tobacco Free Allegheny at 412-322-8321 or [www.tobaccofreeallegheny.org](http://www.tobaccofreeallegheny.org). In addition, Young Lungs at Play signage is available free of charge for communities that join the program to post in their tobacco-free play areas.

Thirty-five municipalities are now part of the Young Lungs at Play program. The 34 others are Aspinwall, Baldwin Borough, Brentwood, Dravosburg, East McKeesport, Emsworth, Findlay, Franklin Park, Forest Hills, Glassport, Harmar, Harrison, Heidelberg, Liberty, McDonald, McKees Rocks, Millvale, Monroeville, Munhall, North Versailles, Ohio, Pitcairn, Reserve, Robinson, Scott, Springdale Township, Stowe, Tarentum, Upper St. Clair, Wall, West Homestead, West Mifflin, Wilkins and Versailles.

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RONALD E. VOORHEES, MD, MPH, ACTING DIRECTOR  
**ALLEGHENY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT – PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE**  
3333 FORBES AVENUE • PITTSBURGH, PA 15213  
PHONE (412) 578-8004 • FAX (412) 578-8325 • [WWW.ACHD.NET](http://WWW.ACHD.NET)

