

Cigarette butts are dangerous for animals in two ways. Cigarette butts can start fires or be eaten.



The ASPCA Poison Control Center reports that dogs most commonly ingest cigarette butts. Nicotine poisoning can occur within 15 minutes. It starts with drooling, panting, vomiting and diarrhea. Advanced cases can have coma, heart attack, and death. Animals can also get nicotine poisoning from nicotine patches and gum.

Cigarette butts are the most common piece of litter collected during beach clean-ups. Cigarette butts have been found in the stomachs of fish, birds, whales, and other marine animals that mistake them for food.

Cigarettes can cause house fires that are deadly for pets. Outside, cigarettes have started forest fires that kill wild animals and destroy their habitat. A study from University of California, Davis, showed that smoking is a leading cause of fire disaster and death worldwide, costing over \$27 billion yearly.



What can you do?

Don't allow smoking around your pet, especially indoors.

Call Tobacco Use Reduction Now at 1-800-637-6653 for free "No Smoking" signs for your home or business.

If you smoke, quit.

Call Tobacco Use Reduction Now at 1-800-637-6653. We'll help you for free.

If you aren't ready to quit, go outside to smoke.

Tobacco Use Reduction Now has information about getting ready to quit. Call us at 1-800-637-6653.

Until you quit, throw away your cigarette butts carefully.

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Secondhand smoke is as dangerous to animals as it is to people. Animals can develop skin allergies and asthma from breathing secondhand smoke. Pets that eat cigarettes can suffer from digestive and neurological problems."

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Tobacco Use Reduction Now (TURN) Program

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**Protect Your Pets
Secondhand
Smoke and
Your Pet**



San Bernardino County
Department of Public Health
Tobacco Use Reduction
Now Program

Smokers who have pets may be putting them at risk for cancer every time they light up a cigarette.

Cats exposed to secondhand smoke more than double their risk of feline lymphoma, according to a Tufts University study. Lymphoma is the most common cat cancer. It kills quickly. Even with expensive chemotherapy and radiation, lymphoma can only be cured about half the time in cats.

Cats don't just breathe in secondhand smoke toxins, they also lick them off their fur as they groom themselves. This raises your cat's chance of getting oral cancer.

Tobacco smoke contains more than 4,000 chemicals, with 43 of them known to cause cancer.



Research from Colorado State University shows that tobacco smoke has a clear effect on dogs. Cancer-causing chemicals can be found in dogs' hair and urine months after exposure to tobacco smoke.

Dogs with long noses have a greater risk of nasal and sinus cancer than dogs with short noses. Short-nosed dogs have a higher risk of lung cancer.

Warning signs of cancer in dogs are coughing, weight loss, and fatigue. Nasal cancer can cause swelling, sneezing, and bloody discharge from the nose.

Just like humans, pets can get asthma and other breathing problems when they are exposed to secondhand smoke.

Smokers and their pets often get similar respiratory and heart disease. Vets see coughing birds, wheezing dogs and asthmatic cats at their clinics.

Birds have very sensitive respiratory systems. They are more likely to get pneumonia and lung cancer when they are exposed to tobacco smoke.

Pets can also get red, watery eyes and skin allergies from cigarette smoke.

