

# MEDIA RELEASE

ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



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## May 31 is World No Tobacco Day

Erie, PA — For World No Tobacco Day this May 31, the Erie County Department of Health (ECDH) and Nicotine Free NWPA have teamed up with the Erie SeaWolves to show two anti-vaping video announcements on the scoreboard during home games for the 2021 season.

“The SeaWolves are excited to once again partner up with the Erie County Department of Health and campaign to the community the negative effects tobacco has on fans,” said Mark Pirrello, the baseball team’s assistant general manager. “Further education to our fans on this can only have a positive effect and will continue to enhance the quality of life in the Erie region.”

This is one of several initiatives to raise awareness in the community about the harmful and deadly effects of tobacco use spearheaded or supported by the ECDH and Nicotine Free NWPA, a multi-organizational effort to address tobacco use in 13 counties of the Northwest Pennsylvania health district.

Studies have shown that the same cancer-causing chemicals that are found in cigarettes can also be found in e-cigarettes. Nicotine in cigarettes and e-cigarettes can harm brain development until someone is in their mid to late 20s. It can also lead to addiction in youth and young adults.

Anti-tobacco messages will also air on AM 1330 during SeaWolves games. In addition, the youth are invited to join an Advocacy Video Challenge organized by the American Lung Association and the Tobacco Resistance Unit (TRU), a statewide anti-tobacco youth group. The videos in this contest will be sent to state legislators to educate them on important tobacco prevention topics. Visit [truinpa.org](http://truinpa.org) to join.

For more information about World No Tobacco Day, contact Erie County Department of Health at 814-451-6700 or visit the Nicotine Free NWPA Facebook Page ([facebook.com/TobaccofreeNWPA1](https://facebook.com/TobaccofreeNWPA1)). For information on quitting tobacco, please call 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-7848-669) or go to [pa.quitlogix.org](http://pa.quitlogix.org).

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