

It's a "Pick Up Party" June 19 at the Okmulgee Municipal Park

The Okmulgee County Wellness Coalition's Communities of Excellence Tobacco Prevention Program will be hosting a, "Pick Up Party", Thursday, June 19th, from 9-10 am at the Okmulgee Municipal Park. The Pick Up Party will celebrate the new tobacco free city property ordinance, which was passed in April, by providing a service to the community. The event will focus on picking up cigarette litter and trash around the playground area.

"I am very excited for the Pick Up Party, which will help promote the new policy which makes all City owned parks tobacco free. The tobacco companies work tirelessly to come up with new and deceptive tactics to entice our youth to start using tobacco products. As a community, we have to come together and find ways to keep our children from ever falling into their trap. This new policy is a good start." – Jennifer Avery, Tobacco Prevention Coordinator

Cigarette litter is one of the most littered products in the world, and poses a threat to children and wildlife that may ingest them.

"This event will present a good opportunity to educate the public about the effects of cigarette litter on parks and other public places. According to cigarettelitter.org, cigarettes are the most littered item in America and in the world. So much so that it is estimated that several trillion cigarette butts are littered every year. That equals billions of cigarettes flicked on our sidewalks, beaches, nature trails, gardens, and other public places every single day." – Cheryl Najera, Students Working Against Tobacco (SWAT) Coordinator

In addition to the Pick Up Party, there will also be "Quit Kits" and tobacco cessation information available for those who wish to quit using tobacco products. For free quit coaching, and to see if you qualify for free gum, patches, or lozenges, call 1-800- QUIT NOW.
