



Welcome to NashVitality News! Every month we bring you healthy, active and green events and resources making Nashville a great place to live, learn, work, play & worshi

## Preemption and Public Health

### What is Preemption?

Preemption is a legislative or judicial action in which a higher level of government (state or federal) removes authority over a specific subject matter from lower levels of government.

#### A Brief History of Preemption Affecting Public Health in Nashville

Preemption is nothing new in Nashville. The issues that spark preemption are often multi-faceted and controversial. Many of the recent preemption efforts, if/when successful, have a direct impact on public health. In recent history, there have been several preemption issues that have impacted public health.

Look for more on these in future editions of NashVitality News.

#### Local Control of Tobacco Laws

Last week, [Nashville](#) celebrated [Kick Butts Day](#), an annual event where young people from across the country raise awareness about the dangers of smoking. Despite a half century of progress in reducing its toll, **tobacco remains the leading preventable cause of death** in the United States, killing more than 440,000 people each year.

Tennessee preempts local control of tobacco in a provision in the Tennessee Code Annotated Comprehensive Tobacco Control Act, Prevention of Youth Access to Tobacco. This law strictly prohibits the sale of tobacco products and the possession, purchase or receipt of tobacco products to persons under the age of 18. A

## News & Events

Join Team Green Adventures and Urban Green Labs at 6 PM, Wednesday, April 2 for a small scale gardening workshop at [Second Harvest Food Bank](#). This workshop is free to attend but an RSVP is encouraged.

[Click here](#) for more information or to RSVP.

Join Metro Public Health Department and community partners, Thursday, April 3, from 1 PM until 4 PM at the [TSU Gentry Center](#) for Nashville's Incredible Baby Shower. The 2014 Incredible Baby Shower

preemption provision was included in this law prior to its enactment, which states: "The general assembly intends by this part and other provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated to occupy and preempt the entire field of legislation concerning the regulation of tobacco products."

Local control is important because it provides communities the authority to enact tobacco control policies to meet their individual community needs. According to the [American Medical Association](#), "Preemption is the tobacco industry's top legislative goal, because it concentrates authority at the state (or federal) level, where the industry is stronger and can more readily protect its interests." Preemption effectively prevents more stringent enforcement at the local level.

This year the Metro Public Health Department will be partnering with its Youth Advisory Board to present a #TobaccoTargetsMe Project which allows students, through the use of social media, to show how they witness "Big Tobacco" targeting them every day. **A visual installment of the #TobaccoTargetsMe Project will be on display at the [Lentz Public Health Center](#) on Thursday March 27.**

## Save the Date - May 9

MAPP is the community health assessment and strategic planning process currently underway in Nashville. One of the four MAPP strategic issues that will move the strategic planning process asks: *How can Nashville collaborate and efficiently use data to improve public health systems?* The crux of this issue is **collaboration**.

Nashville is the capital of the Volunteer State, and the city has shown time and again that in a crisis, we come together to support our neighbors in amazing, generous and kind ways.

When it comes to collectively addressing public health issues, however, there are some barriers. Each organization has their own mission, their own governing body. Organizations are often forced to act out of self-interest, and see potential partners as competition. One major reason for this being, of course, ever-decreasing access to resources.



provides education, resources, free baby items and door prizes to pregnant and new mothers and their families.

[Click here](#) for more information or call (615) 340-5614 or (615) 340-0552

Join Metro Parks and many others, from 9 AM until 3:30 PM, Saturday, April 5 at [Bells Bend Outdoor Center](#) for the 4th Annual Nashville Outdoor Recreation Festival and Expo. Check out the latest gear and meet people who love Outdoor Recreation. Activities include a trail Run, guided hikes, hayrides, live music, fly-tying, nature photography, and wildlife rehabilitation.

[Click here](#) for more information call (615) 862-4187

Join Metro Parks from 1 PM until 5 PM, Saturday, April 26 to Canoe or Kayak the Harpeth River. The cost is \$25 per person and is open to those 10 years or older.

For more information or

This is not to say that we do not collaborate, or that we have not achieved amazing results when we do. Many health and quality of life indicators are moving in a healthier direction. But, we can always do better - Maybe all we need is a little inspiration. Find some [here](#).

On May 9, the Healthy Nashville Summit (formerly Nashville HEALS) will bring Local Public Health System partners together to discuss how to address this and the other MAPP strategic issues. **Stay tuned.**

to register, contact [Neel Deshpande](#) at (615) 429-3549

Save the Date for the 3rd Annual Mayor's Field Day from 9 AM until 12 PM, Saturday, May 3 at [LP Field](#).

Mayor's Field Day with the Tennessee Titans allows participants to learn new, fun ways to get physically active.

[Click here](#) for more information or to register.