

# Todd's Giftshop Makes a Commitment to a Tobacco-Free Workplace in Mexico, ME

Within the first few months of having a new Tobacco Prevention Coordinator, Healthy Oxford Hills was able to pass a workplace tobacco policy and form a partnership with a small business in Mexico, Maine.

Cigarette smoking costs Maine nearly \$1.5 billion every year and over \$600 million in lost productivity in Maine each year. The proportion of workers who smoke tobacco or who are exposed to secondhand smoke in the workplace has decreased over the past several decades. The percentage of workers who smoke varies by the industry and occupation (CDC).

Cortney, who is a Tobacco Coordinator for Healthy Oxford Hills started in this position September of 2020. Being new to the role, she wasn't sure where to start or who she should reach out to first. Cortney had lots of community relationships in the Rumford / Mexico area and used that to her advantage. She reached out to Todd's Gift-Shop & Greenhouse to see if they would have any interest in working together to pass a tobacco free policy. Luckily they were interested, Cortney worked with them to help come up with a policy that would fit their small business. They do not have new employee orientation, so they felt it would be best to keep that out of their policy and add something in that would fit the needs and wants of their business. This was the first tobacco policy that Todd's Gift-Shop & Greenhouse has ever had, it was very exciting for both the business and Healthy Oxford Hills!

A partnership was formed between Healthy Oxford Hills as a District Tobacco Prevention Partner and Todd's Gift-shop & Greenhouse, acknowledging the resources that can now be provided since forming the partnership!



*"Working with Cortney was such an easy experience. We're so excited to have a Tobacco Policy to ensure the health of all employees and customers and to make everyone feel safe when they shop at our store. We can't wait to work with her more in the future!"*

-Todd Wardwell, Owner

Todd's Gift-shop & Greenhouse was excited to work with Healthy Oxford Hills. The health and safety of their employees and customers has always been a number one priority.

## For More Information Contact Us At:

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