

## Valid forms of ID include:

- Current state issued identification card or drivers license
- Military ID
- Resident Alien Card
- US Passport

## Enforcement

Tobacco retailers may be inspected in 30 to 90 day intervals. If a violation is found fines can be given to the tobacco licensee, employee and anyone who participated in the violation.

- First Offense,  
Up to \$500
- Second Offense,  
Up to \$750
- Third Offense,  
Up to \$750 and 5 to 180 day suspension
- Forth Offense,  
Up to \$750 and possible revocation

## Helpful links:

**Tobacco Free Kids:**  
[www.tobaccofreekids.org/](http://www.tobaccofreekids.org/)

**Montgomery County Department of Liquor Control:**  
[www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dlc](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dlc)

**Maryland State Attorney General:**  
[www.oag.state.md.us/Tobacco/index.htm](http://www.oag.state.md.us/Tobacco/index.htm)

**Maryland Business Licenses:**  
[elicvirtual.courts.state.md.us/license /](http://elicvirtual.courts.state.md.us/license/)

**We Card Organization:**  
[www.wecard.org](http://www.wecard.org)

## Let us be a resource to you!

**If you have any tobacco related issues, questions or to setup a free training please contact us.**

**Department of Liquor Control  
Division of Licensure, Regulation  
and Education**

**Front Desk 240-777-1999**

## Tobacco Enforcement Specialists

Brian So or George Woo  
240-777-1983 240-777-1992

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# Responsible Tobacco Retailing Guide



**Montgomery County  
Department of Liquor Control  
Division of Licensure, Regulation  
and Education  
Tobacco Enforcement**

## Did you know?...

- Currently, the average age of a first time smoker is 14.
- Some young people show signs of addiction after just a few cigarettes.
- More than 400,000 people die each year from tobacco related illnesses.

## It's the law!

State and Montgomery County law. . .

- Prohibit tobacco retailers from selling any tobacco product to any one under 18 years old; verified by a valid ID;
- Prohibit having self-service tobacco products;
- Require a valid tobacco license visibly posted on the premises.

## Dos and Don'ts in tobacco retailing:

### DO...

- Do ask for a valid ID during each tobacco transaction.
- Do make eye contact with purchaser.
- Do consider an ID scanner or an age verifier register.
- Do talk to all employees on tobacco sale rules and consequences . . . TRAIN!
- Do consider internal monitoring.
- Do post youth anti-tobacco point of sale signage.

### DON'T...

- Don't try to guess a purchaser's age.
- Don't place tobacco in a self service area.
- Don't accept a purchaser's word that they are 18 or older.
- Don't allow an employee under 18 to conduct unsupervised tobacco transactions.
- Don't multitask while conducting tobacco transactions.

