Quarterly Coalition Meeting!
Hello everyone; W3TFL will be meeting quarterly in 2015. The dates are listed below so mark your calendars!

- Tuesday February 17th 10:00 AM
- Tuesday May 19th 10:00 AM
- Tuesday September 15th 10:00 AM
- Tuesday December 15th 10:00 AM

*The meeting will be held at the Polk County Public Health Department. 100 Polk County Plaza Balsam Lake WI 54810*

Current Cigarette Smoking Among Adults

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable disease and death in the United States, resulting in more than 480,000 premature deaths and $289 billion in direct health care expenditures and productivity losses each year.

The cigarette smoking rate among adults in the U.S. dropped from 20.9 percent in 2005 to 17.8 percent in 2013, according to new data published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in today’s Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR). That is the lowest prevalence of adult smoking since the CDC’s Nation Health Interview Survey (NHIS) began keeping such records in 1965. The report also shows the number of cigarette smokers dropped from 45.1 million in 2005 to 42.1 million in 2013, despite the increasing population in the U.S.

While smoking rates have dropped, there is a significant need to help those who continue to smoke. Cigarette smoking remains especially high among certain groups, most notably those below the poverty level, those who have less education, Americans of multiple race, American Indians/Alaska Natives, males, those who live in the South or Midwest, those who have a disability or limitation, and those who are lesbian/gay/bisexual.

“Though smokers are smoking fewer cigarettes, cutting back by a few cigarettes a day rather than quitting completely does not produce significant health benefits,” said Brian King Ph.D., a senior scientific advisor with CDC’s Office on Smoking and Health.

“Smokers who quit before they’re 40 years old can get back almost all of the 10 years of life expectancy smoking takes away.”

Other Tobacco Products (OTPs) Presentations

If your organization/group is interested in learning more about other tobacco products (OTPs), please contact Mary or Elizabeth. We would love to come and do a presentation to spread the word!
This year the Amery FACT group has done many great things and here are just a few:

- Recruited 38 new members!
- Started having meetings in the High School
- Did 10 FACTavisms:
  - Chalking a tobacco kills message on Middle school porch
  - Cups in the fence with the message “SAY NO 2 TOBACCO”
  - Hidden FACTs Scratch off cards
  - Matching game—which challenges youth to match deadly chemicals found in tobacco products to their household product counterpart.
  - Handed out candies with the message “Candy flavored tobacco is a Trick not at Treat”
  - Placed posters throughout the school
  - Made Hello my name is…. Name tags that got our peers talking about the bad health effects of tobacco.
  - Made a Human Billboard
  - Had a meeting with 2 area Legislators
  - Made buttons to raise awareness about our efforts.