

# Harnett County Asthma Coalition

## Air Quality Flag Program

Do you have asthma or know someone who does? There has been a continual increase in the number of people, especially children, who have been diagnosed with asthma in Harnett County.

The Harnett County Asthma Coalition seeks to improve the air quality for all asthmatics and their caregivers by increasing awareness of outdoor asthma triggers. One way we are doing this is by sponsoring an Air Quality Flag Program. Poor air quality can make your asthma symptoms worse so be sure you know what the air quality color is before planning your outdoor activities!

### *How does the Air Quality Flag Program work?*

Each day beginning May 1, 2008, multi-colored flags will fly throughout the county to indicate the air quality for that particular day. The flags come in four colors based on the Air Quality Index (A.Q.I.) from the North Carolina Division of Air Quality. The color of the flag will help you decide your activities for that day. You will see these flags at participating schools, town halls, and town parks throughout Harnett County.



### *What is the meaning of each color?*

**GREEN:** The air quality is good and considered healthy for everyone. No health impacts expected.

**YELLOW:** The air quality is only okay or moderate. Those who are elderly or extremely sick should consider limiting long periods of outdoor activities.

**ORANGE:** The air quality is unhealthy for sensitive people such as children, elderly, and people with heart or respiratory diseases such as asthma. Sensitive people should limit prolonged outdoor activities.

**RED:** The air outside is unhealthy for everyone. Everyone should limit outdoor activities.

For more information and to find out about our free Freshstart: Stop Smoking Program call the Harnett County Asthma Coalition at 910-814-6248 or email us at <mailto:mmclamb@harnett.org>.