

10 Things Your Community Can Do

- 1. Hold a Life's Sweeter pledge drive and collect pledges to cut back on sugary drinks.
- 2. Start a Life's Sweeter task force to explore ways to make an impact on sugary drink consumption.
- 3. Stop or reduce sugary drink advertising and sponsorships of local events, sports leagues and programs, especially in schools.
- 4. Start a petition campaign to ask for healthier choices in community centers, schools, parks and hospitals.
- 5. Visit or call your elected officials to demand healthier beverage policies like increasing access to free tap water.
- 6. Leave leaflets and posters in neighborhood stores and popular hang outs, libraries and bus stops but be careful not to vandalize any property.
- 7. Declare a soda free day, week or month in your community.
- 8. Get more local groups involved. Spread the message of Life's Sweeter to your PTA group, Boy and Girl Scout troops and religious communities.
- Organize a kids' coalition to ask local grocery stores to move sugary drinks away from the check-out line and promote healthier drinks through displays and coupons.
- 10. Participate in Food Day on October 24, 2011 by holding an event focused on sugary drinks. (www.foodday.org)



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10 Things Your Business or Organization Can Do

- 1. Start a task force to explore ways your business or organization can cut back on sugary drinks.
- 2. Set an office-wide target for drinking less soda and sugary drinks.
- 3. Create rewards and prizes for healthy changes in your organization.
- 4. Make tap or filtered water accessible in your organization and promote it.
- 5. Find a "healthy vending" company to replace the soda machine with healthy snacks and beverages.
- 6. Cut portion sizes by offering smaller drink containers in cafeterias and for staff meetings.
- 7. Provide healthier drinks at functions, meetings, conferences, and parties. Try to serve mostly drinks with less than 25 calories per 8 ounces.
- 8. Make healthy choices readily available. Make sure that vending machines offer 9 healthier drinks for every 1 sugary drink.
- 9. Discourage unhealthy choices. Make sodas more expensive in company cafeterias and vending machines.
- 10. Get creative. Use fun and creative (but sensitive) ideas to educate employees about how drinking sugary beverages contributes to weight gain and disease.



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10 Things You and Your Family Can Do to Cut Back on Sugary Drinks

- 1. Choose water whenever possible over soda and sugary drinks.
- 2. Keep a drink journal and track how many sugary drinks you have in one week.
- 3. Set a target. To start, try drinking half as many sugary drinks this week.
- 4. Go for 100% fruit juice, in moderation. Avoid fruit "drinks" or "cocktails" which contain little or no juice.
- 5. At restaurants, skip the free refill. Switch to water or another unsweetened drink.
- 6. Brew your own iced tea instead of buying sugary bottled tea products. Keep a pitcher in your fridge, fill up a water bottle and take it with you.
- 7. If you like fizzy drinks, try alternatives like sparkling water with a splash of fruit juice or a lime wedge.
- 8. Make sugary drinks a rare treat instead of a daily ritual. Treat them like you would treat candy bars or a piece of cake.
- 9. Don't drink away your workout. There's no need for anything but water when exercising unless you're working out intensely for more than an hour.
- 10. Arm yourself with knowledge. Read nutrition labels to make better choices.



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How Much Sugar are you Drinking?

