

# Marijuana: facts about use and perceptions

More Anne Arundel County youth reported marijuana use (17.5%) in the last 30 days than cigarette use (6%). (Maryland Youth Risk Behavior Survey, 2018)

## FACT

**Marijuana is addictive.** Problem use can lead to dependence. Those under the age of 18 are at an increased risk of developing marijuana use disorder or marijuana addiction.

## FACT

**Marijuana affects memory and brain development.** Areas of the brain responsible for learning, decision-making, emotions and reaction time are compromised with use.

## FACT

**Marijuana has immediate side effects.** Emergency room visits related to marijuana use have been increasing each year. The greatest increase is from teens 12 to 17 years old.

**31% of high school students reported ever using marijuana.**

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**68% of people feel that it is unsafe to drive a car under the influence of marijuana.**

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**The most common reasons for using marijuana are to control anxiety, for recreation and to control pain.**



**ANNE  
ARUNDEL  
COUNTY**

**MARYLAND  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

**Adolescent and Family Services . . . . .** 10-222- 2  
**Treatment Referral Line . . . . .** 10-222-011  
**System Training Education and  
Prevention Services . . . . .** 10-222- 2

**[www.aahealth.org](http://www.aahealth.org)  
[www.facebook.com/aahealth](https://www.facebook.com/aahealth)  
[www.twitter.com/aac\\_recovery](https://www.twitter.com/aac_recovery)**



## **System Training Education and Prevention Services (STEPS)**

**122 Langley Road North, Suite A, Glen Burnie, MD 21060**

**410-222-6724**

Reducing drug and alcohol misuse among young people in Anne Arundel County through public health information and education. STEPS provides evidence-based programs to increase awareness of the risks of drug and alcohol use.

### **Annapolis Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition (ASAP)**

Facilitating healthy community change to reduce alcohol and drug use among youth and young adults through locally lead collaborations and evidence-based prevention strategies.

443-837-5892    [asap@prevents substancem misuse.org](mailto:asap@prevents substancem misuse.org)    [facebook.com/AnnapolisSubstanceAbusePrevention](https://facebook.com/AnnapolisSubstanceAbusePrevention)

### **Northern Lights Against Substance Abuse Coalition (NLASA)**

Uniting the community to reduce alcohol and drug misuse in adolescents and young adults through collaborative efforts. Uses evidence-based strategies to serve

Brooklyn Park, Curtis Bay, Glen Burnie and Pasadena.

410-349-7128    [nlasa@prevents substancem misuse.org](mailto:nlasa@prevents substancem misuse.org)    [facebook.com/NorthernLightsCoalition](https://facebook.com/NorthernLightsCoalition)

### **South County Bridges to a Drug Free Community**

Improving life pathways for a healthy community, preventing youth substance misuse, increasing awareness, educating the community and promoting individual neighborhoods' social, economic, spiritual and emotional healing process in Southern Anne Arundel County.

443-351-7989    [soco@prevents substancem misuse.org](mailto:soco@prevents substancem misuse.org)    [facebook.com/SoCoBridges](https://facebook.com/SoCoBridges)

### **Western Anne Arundel Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition (WASP)**

Establishing a safe and informed community free of underage drinking and the misuse of alcohol and other drugs in Ft. Meade, Hanover, Jessup, Laurel and Severn.

443-351-7989    [wasp@prevents substancem misuse.org](mailto:wasp@prevents substancem misuse.org)    [facebook.com/WASPCoalition](https://facebook.com/WASPCoalition)

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