

Tips for the Workplace





or more servings of fruits and vegetables

Fruits and vegetables are important additions to a healthy lifestyle! They provide a lot of nutrients, water, fiber, and phytochemicals that keep your body healthy and help prevent cancer, heart disease, and other diseases. Plus, they're a tasty way to fill up without adding a lot of calories to your diet – so dig in!

- Try to fill half your plate with fruits and vegetables at each meal – if healthy options are not available in your workplace cafeteria or breakroom, get in the habit of packing a lunch!
- Join with co-workers to improve the food environment start with creating or expanding an existing workplace wellness plan, acquiring a refrigerator and microwave for the break room to make it easier to bring in healthy lunches, and improving vending machine and cafeteria offerings.
- Look into hosting a farmers' market or community garden at your worksite or establishing a farm-to-work partnership.



or fewer hours of recreational screen time⁺

[†]review guidelines on parenting strategies to ensure quality screen time (AAP, 2015)

Recreational screen time is free time spent in front of screens – like televisions, video games, and the internet. It is possible to get enough physical activity and still engage in an unhealthy amount of screen time – so find other fun activities to do in your free time, and take regular breaks from sitting at your computer at work!

- Find like-minded co-workers and take a walk during your lunch break instead of surfing the web.
- Do you work at a desk? Consider sitting on a yoga ball instead of an office chair, do leg lifts under your desk as you type, and learn whether treadmill desks are feasible in your office.
- Take regular breaks to stretch and work your muscles.



or more hour of physical activity

Moving your body is a great way to burn calories, improve your mood, boost your energy, prevent cancer and cardiovascular diseases, and help you sleep better at night – plus, it can be a lot of fun!

- Walk or bike to work.
- Consider scheduling walking meetings in place of seated meetings when there are a small number of attendees.
- Make stairwells more appealing the addition of colorful paint, carpeting, music, and artwork can promote stair use.



sweetened beverages

It is important to drink fluids to stay healthy, but sweetened beverages add extra sugar and calories to the diet. Watch out for drinks with the following ingredients: sugar, honey, sweetener, syrup (e.g., corn syrup, brown rice syrup), and/or ingredients ending in "ose" (e.g., glucose, dextrose).

- Make water the norm for quenching thirst drink water when you are thirsty, and encourage others to do the same.
 Take steps to make free drinking water accessible at work if it isn't already!
- Nonfat and 1% milk and 100% vegetable juices contain beneficial nutrients and calories - they are like healthy foods that promote a nutritious diet; they are not beverages to drink when thirsty.
- Consider limiting your consumption of artificially sweetened beverages, like diet sodas.

Contact 5210 at 5210@psu.edu or www.5210.psu.edu for help identifying programs and resources targeting nutrition, physical activity, and screen time!



References

Boutelle, K. N., Jeffery, R. W., Murray, D. M., & Schmitz, K. H. (2001). Using signs, artwork, and music to promote stair use in a public building. *American Journal of Public Health*, 91(12), 2004-2006.

Brown, A., Shifrin, D.L., & Hill, D.L. (2015). Beyond turn it off: How to advise families on media use. American Academy of Pediatric News, 36(10), 1-1.

Crawford, D., Ball, K., Mishra, G., Salmon, J., & Timperio, A. (2007). Which food-related behaviors are associated with healthier intakes of fruits and vegetables among women? *Public Health Nutrition*, 10(3), 256-265.

Engell, D., Kramer, M., Malafi, T., Salomon, M., & Lesher, L. (1996). Effects of effort and social modeling on drinking in humans. Appetite, 26(2), 129-138.

Freedman, D. A., Whiteside, Y. O., Brandt, H. M., Young, V., Friedman, D. B., & Hebert, J. R. (2012). Assessing readiness for establishing a farmers' market at a community health center. *Journal of Community Health*, *37*(1), 80-88.

Gortmaker, S., Long, M., & Wang, Y. C. (2009). The negative impact of sugar-sweetened beverages on children's health. Retrieved from http://www.rwjf.org/en/research-publications/find-rwjf-research/2009/11/the-negative-impact-of-sugar-sweetened-beverages-on-children-s-h.html

Heyman, M. B., & Abrams, S. A. (2017). Fruit Juice in Infants, Children, and Adolescents: Current Recommendations. Pediatrics, e20170967.

Koepp, G. A., Manohar, C. U., McCrady-Spitzer, S. K., Ben-Ner, A., Hamann, D. J., Runge, C. F., & Levine, J. A. (2013). Treadmill desks: A 1-year prospective trial. *Obesity*, 21(4), 705-11.

Ludwig, D. S. (2009). Artificially sweetened beverages: Cause for concern. Journal of the American Medical Association, 302(22), 2477-2478.

McNeill, L. H., Kreuter, M. W., & Subramanian, S. V. (2006). Social environment and physical activity: A review of concepts and evidence. Social Science & Medicine, 63(4), 1011-1022.

Menkens, A. J. (2009). Workplace wellness. Journal of Public Health Management and Practice, 15(4), 367-370.

Office of Disease Prevention & Health Promotion, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2008). 2008 Physical activity guidelines for Americans. Retrieved from http://www.health.gov/paguidelines/guidelines/default.aspx

Popkin, B. M., Armstrong, L. E., Bray, G. M., Caballero, B., Frei, B., & Willett, W. C. (2006). A new proposed guidance system for beverage consumption in the United States. *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, 83(3), 529-542.

Beers, E. A., Roemmich, J. N., Epstein, L. H., & Horvath, P. J. (2008). Increasing passive energy expenditure during clerical work. *European Journal of Applied Physiology*, 103(3), 353-360.

U.S. Department of Agriculture. (n.d.). ChooseMyPlate.gov. Retrieved from http://choosemyplate.gov

U.S. Department of Agriculture & U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. (2010). *Dietary guidelines for Americans 2010*. Retrieved from http://www.cnpp.usda.gov/DGAs2010-PolicyDocument.htm

Winston, C., & Beck, L. (1999). Phytochemicals: Health protective effects. Canadian Journal of Dietetic Practice and Research, 60(2), 78-84.

