

Village of Waterville, New York Parks and Recreation

The Village of Waterville

Parks and Recreation Tobacco-Free Policy is designed to protect the health, welfare, and safety of our park patrons.

POLICY STATEMENT

The Village of Waterville is committed to providing a high quality of living for all residents. Therefore, we believe that:

1. Tobacco product use in proximity of children, youth and adults engaging in or watching recreational activities is unhealthy and detrimental to the health of others.
2. Tobacco products once consumed in public spaces are often discarded on the ground, thus posing a risk of ingestion to toddlers and causing a litter problem.
3. As parents, leaders, coaches, and officials, we are thought of as role models, and the use of tobacco products around youth has a negative effect on their lifestyle choices.

The Village of Waterville does not allow the use of tobacco products on village-owned park land, park facilities or open space.

“No Tobacco Use” signage will be posted. Enforcement of the Tobacco-Free Park policy is through voluntary compliance.

Policy Adoption Date: _____

Mayor: _____
Ruben Ostrander

Village Clerk/Treasurer: _____
Brenda Knoeller

Village-Owned Outdoor Parks and Municipal Grounds Tobacco-Free Policy

WHEREAS, exposure to tobacco smoke causes immediate adverse effects to the cardiovascular system, causes and exacerbates serious and terminal illnesses; and

WHEREAS, the Village has a unique opportunity to create and sustain an environment that supports a non-tobacco norm through a tobacco-free policy, rule enforcement, and adult-peer role modeling on Village-owned outdoor recreational facilities; and

WHEREAS, parents, leaders, and officials involved in recreation are role models for youth and can have a positive effect on the lifestyle choices they make; and

WHEREAS, cigarettes, once consumed in public spaces, are often discarded on the ground, causing additional maintenance expenses, diminishing the beauty of the Village's recreational facilities, and posing a risk to toddlers due to ingestion; and

WHEREAS, the prohibition of tobacco use at the Village's recreational facilities protects the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of our Village;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that no person shall use any form of tobacco at or on any Village-owned or operated outdoor park or municipal property.

The policy will be enforced as follows.

1. Appropriate signs shall be posted in the above specified areas.
2. The community, especially facility users and staff, will be notified about this policy.
3. Staff will make periodic observations of parks to monitor for compliance, as per its existing protocols for enforcement of other rules and codes of conduct.
4. Any person found violating this policy will be politely reminded of the policy and asked to cease using tobacco products while on the grounds.
5. Persons refusing to comply with staff directives will be asked to leave.
6. Persons refusing to leave will be reported to the police and may be regarded as trespassers.

This policy is effective _____
(effective date)

Signatures

Date