

OFFICIAL  
TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON  
ORDINANCE NO. 02-16

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON, COUNTY OF FAYETTE, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, CREATING A TOBACCO-FREE ZONE AT ANY AND ALL MUNICIPAL PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS.

WHEREAS, in Pennsylvania more than 858,000 young people are exposed to tobacco smoke pollution every day and the U.S. Surgeon General has stated that there is no safe level of exposure, whether indoors or outdoors, and that children's exposure to second-hand smoke causes increased risk of sudden infant death syndrome, lower respiratory infections, middle ear diseases, more severe asthma, respiratory symptoms and slowed lung growth and is responsible for the premature deaths of over 430,000 Americans each year from lung cancer, heart disease, respiratory illness and other diseases; and

WHEREAS, secondhand smoke is responsible for over 50,000 deaths among non-smokers each year; and

WHEREAS, tobacco kills more Americans each year than alcohol, cocaine, heroin, homicide, suicide, accidents, fire and AIDS combined; and

WHEREAS, eighty percent of smokers started before the age of 18, and the average initiation age is 12 years old; and

WHEREAS, everyday as estimated 3,900 young people under the age of 18 try their first cigarette and one-third of these children will die prematurely from tobacco related illnesses; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Township of Washington to assist in role modeling non-smoking behavior to children and youth and to provide children, youth and their families with a safe, smoke-free environment.


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Township of Washington, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, as follows:

1. That all parks and playgrounds within the Township of Where where children are present shall be designated as tobacco-free;
2. Appropriate signage shall be posted to designate said tobacco-free areas;
3. The residents of the Township shall be notified of this Ordinance and the designation of the tobacco-free zones as designated herein; and
4. Any person found to be in violation of this Ordinance shall be ejected from the tobacco-free designated areas.

ORDAINED AND ENACTED this 10 day AUGUST, 2016.

ATTEST:

TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON

  
Secretary

  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors