

**Mayor and Town Council
Anytown, Maryland**

**Resolution in Support of Public Policy
Concerning Tobacco Free Town Parks**

WHEREAS,

- ❖ The use of tobacco and nicotine constitutes a health hazard for those who use it and, in the case of smoking tobacco, for those who inhale the secondhand smoke.
- ❖ Exposure to secondhand smoke is a dangerous health risk. In the U.S. each year, up to 26,000 kids develop asthma from secondhand smoke and many others suffer from bronchitis, pneumonia, and ear infections from inhaling secondhand smoke.
- ❖ Many children are starting to use nicotine at an earlier age, and the percentage of Garrett County children that smoke, vape, or use smokeless tobacco exceeds the state's average.
- ❖ The use of tobacco and nicotine at recreational, family, and athletic activities, attended by children, sends a negative message to children.

BE IT RESOLVED this ____ day of _____, 2019 that the Mayor and Town Council for Anytown, Maryland supports public policy to establish tobacco free town parks within the town limits.

Mayor

Council Member

Council Member

Council Member

Council Member

TOWN PARKS POLICY STATEMENT

Subject: USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS AT ANYTOWN PARK

1. Purpose

To establish guidelines with respect to the use of tobacco and nicotine products at the Town Park.

2. Background

The Town Park is the location for a wide variety of activities for the Town's youth. Studies have shown that exposure to secondhand smoke can have a negative effect on an individual's health. Furthermore, when children are exposed to adults in positions of authority (coaches, program leaders, umpires, etc.) who use tobacco and nicotine products, this may be a bad example for the Town's youth.

3. Action

In order to establish a uniform approach to addressing the issue of the use of tobacco and nicotine products at the Any Town Park, the following procedures are established:

- A. The use of tobacco and nicotine products on the Town Park property is prohibited. This includes cigarettes, snuff, smokeless tobacco, and electronic smoking devices.

- B. This policy will be in effect at any event that occurs at the Town Park including sport events, community events, and individual or private events.

- C. It is not in any way the intention of the Mayor and Town Council to deter any resident from using the Town Park due to this policy. Further, we remain hopeful that all will cooperate and abide by this policy without confrontation or hardship displayed towards Town employees and other community leaders who support the policy. Questions or concerns regarding this policy should be directed to.....

4. Effective Date

This policy statement is effective _____ and will remain in effect until canceled or superceded.