

TOBACCO-FREE ZONE POLICY

Township of Middletown

The Township of Middletown Parks and Recreation Department Tobacco-Free Policy, Young Lungs at Play, is designed to protect the health, welfare and safety of our park patrons.

POLICY STATEMENT

Middletown Township is committed to providing clean, safe and well-maintained parks for the public. This policy is adopted based on the following findings:

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. Parents, leaders, coaches and officials are thought of as role models, and the use of tobacco products around youth has a negative effect on their lifestyle choices.

TOBACCO-FREE FACILITIES

Middletown Township does not allow the use of tobacco products in tobacco-free zones in Township Parks and Recreation facilities. A tobacco-free zone is any area within 50 feet of active recreation, including but not limited to athletic fields, basketball courts, hockey rinks, playgrounds and tennis courts.

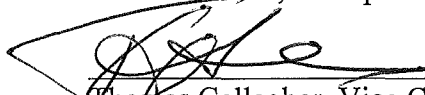
COMPLIANCE PROCEDURES

The emphasis on enforcing the Tobacco-Free Zone Policy is through voluntary compliance:

1. Township Parks and Recreation facilities will post Young Lungs at Play signage.
2. Township staff will meet with activity organizations and/or leaders or coaches to discuss the policy and to distribute flyers with the "Tobacco-Free" regulations.
3. Township staff will make periodic observations of activity sites to monitor compliance and help to promote awareness of the tobacco-free policy.

Policy Adoption Date: July 22, 2013


Patrick Mallon, Chairperson


Thomas Gallagher, Vice Chairperson