

MORRIS COUNTY PARK COMMISSION

Policy and Procedure

Subject: Control of Smoking in Morris County Park Commission Parks, Facilities, Buildings, Properties, and Vehicles PP 1:4.16	Effective Date: 6-1-01	Approval: Res. No. 110-01
	Revised Date: 6-28-04	Approval: Res. No. 124-04
	Revised Date: 6-26-06	Approval: Res. No. 130-06
	Revised Date: 01-08-19	Approval: Res. No. 06-19

Purpose:

This policy was adopted to conform to all the provisions of New Jersey Chapter Law 64, Section 2 of P.L. 2005, c.383(C.26:3D-56).

The prohibition of smoking at public parks and beaches would better preserve and maintain the natural assets of this State by reducing litter and increasing fire safety in those areas, while lessening exposure to secondhand tobacco smoke and providing for a more pleasant park or beach experience for the public. This policy applies to all park staff, contractors, vendors, and visitors to parks, facilities and properties under the Park Commission’s stewardship responsibility.

Definition:

“Public park or beach” means but is not limited to any park, forest, beach, arboreta, historic site, recreation facility, arena, reservation, marina, trail, greenway, education facility under the Park Commission’s stewardship responsibility.

“Smoking” means the burning of, inhaling from, exhaling the smoke from, or the possession of a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or any other matter of substance which contains tobacco or any other matter that can be smoked, or the inhaling or exhaling of smoke or vapor from an electronic smoking device.

“Electronic Smoking Device” means an electronic device that can be used to deliver nicotine or other substances to the person inhaling from the device, including, but not limited to, an electronic cigarette, cigar, cigarillo, or pipe.

Areas of Prohibited Smoking:

The Park Commission has designated all buildings on Park Commission property and Park Commission vehicles as areas where smoking is prohibited. The Park Commission has further designated that all parks, facilities and properties under its stewardship responsibility are areas

where smoking is prohibited except for Berkshire Valley, Flanders Valley, Pinch Brook, and Sunset Valley golf courses.

Areas of Conditional Smoking:

As per New Jersey Chapter Law 64, Section 2 of P.L. 2005, c.383(C.26:3D-56) smoking is only permissible at golf courses and not to exceed 15% of the total area of a beach. Smoking on beaches must be designated by Park Commission resolution and the Commission has opted not to permit smoking on any beach area.

The Park Commission has determined that; Berkshire Valley Golf Course, Flanders Valley Golf Course, Pinch Brook Golf Course, and Sunset Valley Golf Course are the only park facilities where smoking is to be permitted by the public. Smoking is only permitted on turf play areas excluding designated practice areas, including driving ranges.

Park Commission employees are not permitted to smoke on any park property.

Public and Controlled Smoking:

Any person not in compliance with posted smoking rules shall first be given verbal notification; if upon such notification the person fails to comply with the posted rules, the Supervisor of the area may deny services.

Divisional Director Responsibility:

SIGN POSTING – It is the responsibility of the Divisional Director in conjunction with the Manager of Building and Construction to insure that official “No Smoking Allowed” signs are posted in appropriate locations under the stewardship responsibility of the Park Commission. Other appropriate language may be used for signs within parks and special-use areas.

EMPLOYEE NOTIFICATION – Each Divisional Director is responsible for posting and distributing the control of smoking policy to employees. Thirty (30) days from the distribution date, the rules become Morris County Park Commission policy, enforceable by Supervisors in accordance with the established progressive disciplinary policy.

Smoking is not permitted in employee housing facilities and an employee will lose the opportunity to live in Park Commission housing if they are not in compliance.

Employees who violate the posted smoking rules may be subject to disciplinary procedures and/or other fines and penalties in accordance with provisions of the law, New Jersey Chapter Law 64, Section 2 of P.L. 2005, c.383(C.26:3D-56).

