

# **Tobacco Free Recreation Policy**

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Town of Bar Harbor

In order to promote the health and safety of Bar Harbor residents and visitors, all Town recreational properties are established as Tobacco-Free Zones, including, but not limited to: Agamont Park, Grant Park, Harborview Park, Village Green, Glen Mary Park, Hadley Point Landing, Millbrook Preserve, Park Street Playground, Town Hill Playground, the Athletic Field, and Barker Park.

- The Town of Bar Harbor has set a goal that Bar Harbor is a safe and healthy place to live, visit and work.
- Tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death and disease in the United States, as well as in the State of Maine.
- Secondhand smoke contains many harmful chemicals and cancer causing agents; is a serious health risk to humans, especially pregnant women, infants and children; and increases a nonsmoker's risk of asthma, heart disease and lung cancer.
- Tobacco use in and around the Bar Harbor recreational areas sends contradictory message to young people who are participating in activities beneficial to their health.
- The purpose of the recreational properties is to provide quality and leisure experiences that enhance the quality of life for citizens and visitors of Bar Harbor, including providing a safe environment for these experiences.
- Tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke are contrary to enhancing the quality of life and providing safe environments.

All Town recreational properties so-named are tobacco-free zones, 24 hours a day-365 days a year that specifically prohibit the use of any tobacco product, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, spit and smokeless tobacco, chew, snuff, snus, vaping devices, and other non-FDA approved nicotine delivery devices (i.e., electronic cigarettes).

The Town of Bar Harbor Parks and Recreation Committee is authorized to take reasonable steps, such as signage and other communication tools, to achieve compliance with the tobacco-free zones established hereunder.

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## LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

5/2/11 Draft prepared by Parks and Recreation Committee

8/16/11 Amended by Town Council

9/6/11 Adopted by Town Council

12/2/14 Proposed amendments by Parks and Recreation Committee and Wellness

12/2/14 Adopted by Town Council