



Smoke Free Parks and Facilities Ordinance

Pleasant Hill Recreation & Park District's smoke free parks and facilities ordinance prohibits smoking in all District parks and District facilities. District residents will benefit from this ordinance with clean air in our parks and facilities, lower fire risk and less litter.

Purpose

Pleasant Hill Recreation & Park District is committed to providing for the health and welfare of District residents, members of the public, and employees. In keeping with this commitment, the District establishes this policy for the purpose of protecting the public health and welfare by prohibiting smoking and any use or disposal of tobacco products in public places owned or operated by the District.

General Provisions

Where is smoking and any use or disposal of tobacco products prohibited?

- In all District parks (including parking lots for the parks).
- In all District facilities (including parking lots).
- In District designated open space areas.
- All hiking trails owned or operated by the District.

Smoking or disposing of tobacco related waste is prohibited inside all District buildings, swimming pool areas, playgrounds, sports fields, trails and open space areas.

Secondhand smoke information

1. People who breathe in secondhand smoke are inhaling more than 50 cancer causing chemicals. (Study by the US Surgeon General- 2006)
2. Outdoor smoke can reach the same levels as indoor smoke. (Scientific studies by Stanford University and others documented that after secondhand smoke rises into the air, it becomes invisible and drops down to a lower level where people breathe in toxins from the unseen smoke).
3. Secondhand smoke causes cancer (lung cancer, breast cancer, and other cancers), heart disease, asthma, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, pre-term births, and other illnesses and health problems.
4. Infants, children, and older people are especially vulnerable to secondhand smoke.

Fire Safety

This ordinance reduces the risk of fire in parks and open space, which can spread to nearby homes.

How is the law enforced?

The approach to enforcement emphasizes public education and voluntary cooperation. No-smoking signs will be posted in parks and open space. Primary means of enforcement will be education, public awareness, and voluntary compliance.

Is there an exemption for smokers that are passing through?

No, anyone smoking within a District park or District facility is violating the law even if they are moving.

Are there designated smoking areas within the parks and recreational facilities?

No. All park areas and recreational facilities are included within this ordinance.