



## **Wiard Park District**

### **Smoke-Free Parks Policy**

**Approved by resolution of the Board of Directors 7/15/2015**

#### **Section 1: Rationale**

**WHEREAS**, the Board believes that tobacco use in the proximity of children and adults engaging in or watching outdoor recreational activities at the parks under the Wiard Park Board administration is detrimental to their health and can be offensive to those using such facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board has a unique opportunity to create and sustain an environment that supports a non-tobacco norm through a smoke-free policy, rule enforcement, and adult-peer role modeling in outdoor recreational facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board believes parents, leaders, and officials involved in recreation are role models for youth and can have a positive effect on the lifestyle choices they make; and

**WHEREAS**, the tobacco industry advertises at and sponsors recreational events to foster a connection between tobacco use and recreation; and

**WHEREAS**, cigarettes, once consumed in public spaces, are often discarded on the ground requiring additional maintenance expenses, including potential fire costs, diminish the beauty of the Wiard recreational facilities, and pose a risk to toddlers and animals due to ingestion; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wiard Park Board determines that the prohibition of smoking at their recreational facilities serves to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of our County.

**THEREFORE**, be it resolved that smoking use is prohibited in Wiard Park outdoor recreational facilities. No person shall smoke any substance, in any form, including electronic nicotine delivery systems (which may include e-cigarette, e-hooka, vape pens, and other devices not intended for a medical purpose), at or on any Wiard Park owned or operated outdoor recreational facilities. These facilities include playgrounds, picnic areas, event spaces, walking/hiking trails, and nature spaces.

#### **Section 2: Enforcement**

1. Appropriate signs shall be posted in the above specified areas.
2. The community, especially facility users and staff, will be notified about this policy.
3. Staff will make periodic observations of recreational facilities to monitor for compliance.
4. Any person found violating this policy may be respectfully asked to cease tobacco use or leave the park areas.

#### **Section 3: Effective Date**

This policy statement is effective immediately upon the date of adoption, which is August 1, 2015.