

SAMPLE ORDINANCE



Tobacco-free Parks and Playgrounds: Ordinance No. XXXX - 20XX

AN ORDINANCE OF *(Name of Municipality)*, COUNTY OF _____ AND COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, PROHIBITING THE USE OF TOBACCO IN RECREATIONAL AREAS, PARKS AND PLAYGROUNDS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION THEREOF.

The Municipality’s Parks and Recreational facilities will serve to protect the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of *(Name of Municipality.)*

WHEREAS, the *(Municipal Council)* acknowledges that second hand tobacco smoke poses a threat to the health, safety and welfare of adults and minor children; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Surgeon General has determined that there is no safe level of exposure to tobacco smoke pollution; and

WHEREAS, secondhand tobacco smoke is responsible for over 50,000 deaths among nonsmokers each year; and

WHEREAS, tobacco kills more Americans each year than alcohol, cocaine, heroin, homicide, and suicide, accidents, fire and AIDS combined; and

WHEREAS, 80% of smokers started smoking before the age of 18, and the average initiation age is 12 years old; and

WHEREAS, the (Municipal) Council desires to discourage tobacco use and promote the public health by making Municipality owned parks, playgrounds and recreational fields “tobacco free zones.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the (Municipal Council of _____) and it is hereby ordained and enacted by the authority of the same as follows:

Section 1: Designated Tobacco-Free Areas: That the areas of parks and playgrounds where children are present including *(list areas specific to your community: picnic areas, sports and athletic fields, concert venues, etc.)* in the Municipality of _____ be designated tobacco-free and the use of any tobacco product in any form shall be prohibited hereafter.

Section 2: Young Lungs at Play Signs or other appropriate signage will be posted delineating the tobacco-free areas.

Section 3: Enforcement: *Please insert the specific statement or penalty (ies) for violation of this Ordinance* Council hereby authorizes its elected and appointed officials to take whatever steps are necessary for full participation in and compliance with the Young Lungs at Play Program and/or other such programs of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Section 4: The community shall be notified of this Ordinance.

This Ordinance shall become effective on the ____ of _____, 20XX.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED this ____ day of _____, 20XX, a quorum being present and acting throughout.

ATTEST: _____ MUNICIPALITY ATTEST: _____

By affixing my signature hereto, I hereby approve this Ordinance the ____ day of _____, 20XX.

By: _____
Mayor

SAMPLE ORDINANCE
