



Smoke-free.

Vapor-free.

Tobacco-free.





FACT SHEET

KEY FACTS

- Tobacco products are the most littered item nationwide, accounting for nearly 40% of all littered items.¹
- A non-user exposed to secondhand aerosol smoke produced by the exhaled particles from electronic cigarettes could be exposed to particles similar in size to tobacco smoke and diesel engine smoke.²
- Taking steps to eliminate outdoor tobacco and e-cigarette use promotes health equity for all by de-normalizing unhealthy behaviors and establishing community norms that tobacco and e-cigarette use is not accepted behavior.³
- Tobacco smoke is one of the most common asthma triggers. Children with asthma who are exposed to secondhand smoke are at risk for more severe and frequent asthma attacks, which can be fatal.⁴

WHY IT MATTERS

- Heavy nicotine use can prime adolescent brains for future substance use.¹¹
- One in 15 Virginians currently have asthma, and that number is increasing.¹⁰
- Over 125,000 youth in VA currently have asthma.
 - Nearly 1 in 5 students went to the emergency room or urgent care center last year because of their asthma.¹⁰
- Litter from cigarettes and nicotine vapor products liquid poses an ingestion risk for young children. Ingesting discarded cigarettes or cigarette butts can cause vomiting, tremors, weakness, unresponsiveness, and may lead to respiratory arrest and death.⁵
 - Ingesting discarded nicotine liquid used for e-cigarettes can cause vomiting, a racing heart, difficulty breathing, and even death—a teaspoon of concentrated liquid nicotine can be fatal for toddlers 26 pounds and under.⁶
- People exposed to second-hand aerosol smoke produced by e-cigarettes have shown similar nicotine absorption levels similar to passive smokers.⁷
- E-cigarettes do not produce just water vapor. [e-cigs emit] "harmful chemicals like diacetyl, heavy metals like nickel and lead, and even benzene, the stuff that comes out of your exhaust pipe."^{8,9}
 - Dangerous metal particles such as chromium are found in vape clouds and the toxic metal can build in your lungs over time.¹²

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**PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD YOUR MUNICIPALITY
OR COUNTY TO THE SHARE THE AIR SIGN-ON LETTER**

_____ is committed to providing 100% tobacco-free and vape-free parklands, park facilities, and open public spaces to provide a clean, healthy, and safe environment for all Virginians.

Signing this letter is voluntary.

As part of this agreement, the signee agrees to:

- Promote voluntary compliance to prohibit tobacco and electronic smoking device use on parklands, park facilities, open public spaces, and all enclosed and designated areas, including common areas, playgrounds, and shelters.
- Park staff will be informed of the voluntary policy and given statements to help encourage voluntary compliance and will help distribute flyers informing the community of the voluntary tobacco- and e-cigarette-free policy.
- Post signage in a manner and location that adequately informs the community of the tobacco- and e-cigarette-free policy.
- Advertise and promote this policy on the municipality's website using the provided campaign language, if and when possible.

Individual Completing this Form

Title

Effective Date

Phone Number

Email Address

By adding your municipality or county to this sign-on letter, I understand and agree to the following:

- This sign-on letter will be shared with key decision-makers, such as local and state elected officials.
- This sign-on letter may be shared with the media to demonstrate local and statewide concern for this issue.
- This sign-on letter may be shared and posted on social media, the Share The Air website, or other forms of Share The Air media (such as a video).
- This sign-on letter will use your logo (if provided) to showcase your city/ town/ county's concern. Your logo may also be shown on Share The Air presentations showcasing the organizations who have signed on to the letter.

Where We Are

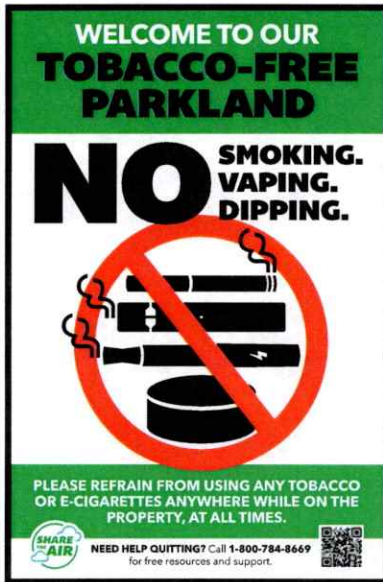
Check out Share The Air's partners that have gone smoke-free, vapor-free, and tobacco-free! Thanks to their commitment, over 2,993,700 Virginians are protected and can enjoy a healthier outdoor environment.



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|---------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Winchester | 15. Hopewell | 29. Greene County |
| 2. Fauquier County | 16. Town of Alberta | 30. Emporia |
| 3. Town of Stanley | 17. Franklin County | 31. Greensville County |
| 4. Town of Shenandoah | 18. Martinsville | 32. Suffolk |
| 5. Town of Warrenton | 19. McReynolds Athletic Complex | 33. Warren County |
| 6. King George County | 20. City of Fredericksburg | 34. Rockingham County |
| 7. Town of Colonial Beach | 21. City of Alexandria | 35. Amelia County |
| 8. City of Lexington | 22. James City County | 36. Town of Gordonsville |
| 9. Hanover County | 23. Fairfax County | 37. Manassas |
| 10. Town of Ashland | 24. Falls Church | 38. Town of Tappahannock |
| 11. New Kent County | 25. Fluvanna County | 39. Town of Strasburg |
| 12. Henrico County | 26. Campbell County | 40. Petersburg |
| 13. Powhatan County | 27. Town of Smithfield | |
| 14. Chesterfield County | 28. Pulaski County | |



FREE OUTDOOR TOBACCO-FREE SIGNAGE



Aluminum Signs -12" x 18"

ALUMINUM SIGNS: BEST FOR OUTDOOR AREAS

- Sign Poles/Lampposts
- Fences
- Athletic Fields or Playgrounds
- Parking Lots
- Outside of Buildings



Decals - 8" x 8"

DECALS: BEST FOR ENTRIES & ITEMS

- Restrooms
- Doors, Windows, Mirrors
- Trash Cans
- Play Equipment

These signs are part of a comprehensive toolkit designed to support your tobacco-free and e-cigarette-free parkland. In addition to the signage, the toolkit provides:

- A **FREE** customized image to post on your city/town/county's social media channels and website, and Share The Air's media channels;
- A **FREE** professionally-designed advertisement/announcement to include in local news sources; and
- **FREE** resources for you to share with staff, key stakeholders, and your constituents to educate the public about the tobacco-free and e-cigarette-free outdoor policy.