

RESOLUTION 2012 - 37

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL, BEAVER COUNTY, A FIRST CLASS TOWNSHIP  
UNDER THE LAWS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,  
CREATING TOBACCO-FREE ZONES AT HOPEWELL PARKS AND  
PLAYGROUNDS**

**WHEREAS**, in Pennsylvania, more than 858,000 young people are exposed to tobacco smoke pollution every day and the U.S. Surgeon General has stated that there is no safe level of exposure whether indoors or outdoors, that children's exposure to second-hand smoke causes increased risk of sudden death syndrome, lower respiratory infections, middle ear diseases, asthma, respiratory infections and is responsible for the premature deaths of over 430,000 Americans each year from lung cancer, heart disease, respiratory illness and other diseases; and

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

**WHEREAS**, the use of tobacco products kills more Americans each year than alcohol, cocaine, crack, heroin, homicide, suicide, accidents, fires, and AIDS combined; and

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

**WHEREAS**, everyday an estimated 3,900 young people under the age of 18 try their first cigarette and one third of these children will die prematurely from tobacco-related illnesses; and

**WHEREAS**, to help role model nonsmoking behavior to children and youth; to provide children, youth and their families with a safe, smoke-free environment the Prevention Network of Baden, Pennsylvania established a no-cost program entitled "Young Lungs At Play" supported by the Pennsylvania Department of Health through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

**WHEREAS**, the Young Lungs At Play initiative has been successfully implemented in Pennsylvania and supports community efforts to protect the environment and the health of all Hopewell Township residents, particularly our youth by limiting exposure to the dangers of secondhand smoke and unattractive tobacco litter through effective signage provided free of charge to participating communities.


**NOW THEREFORE**, the Board of Commissioners for the Township of Hopewell, resolve as follows:

1. It is the desire of the Township of Hopewell to prohibit the use of tobacco products in parks, playgrounds, recreational fields or anywhere where children play by establishing tobacco-free zones. These zones will be designated by signage posted at the tobacco-free zone by conveying an attractive, self-enforcing and positive tobacco free message.
2. That the designated tobacco-free zones shall be:
  - Designated areas of parks and playgrounds where children are present at Township sponsored events
  - All Township Playgrounds
  - Pavilion #2 at Hopewell Park
  - Concession stand at Hopewell Park
  - Blaney Center at Hopewell Park
3. Appropriate signage will be posted designating these tobacco-free areas.
4. The community will be notified of the adoption of this Resolution.
5. A violation of this Resolution shall result in the issuance of one (1) warning. Any subsequent violation shall result in the violator being banned from any Hopewell Township park or playgrounds for a period of one (1) year.

This Resolution setting forth Tobacco-Free Zones at Hopewell Park is adopted and effective this 10<sup>th</sup> day of DECEMBER, 2012.

ATTEST:

  
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Andy Brunette, Manager

Board of Commissioners  
Hopewell Township  
  
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Norm Kraus, Jr., President