

TOWN OF MILLINOCKET

RESOLUTION TO PROMOTE THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE TOWN OF MILLINOCKET RESIDENTS, VISITORS AND EMPLOYEES BY ESTABLISHING ALL TOWN-OWNED PROPERTY AS TOBACCO-FREE ZONE

WHEREAS, the Town of Millinocket, Maine advocates and promotes the good health and quality of life for its citizens, visitors, employees: and

WHEREAS, tobacco use is the single most preventable cause of death and disease in the United States, as well as in the State of Maine, leading to more deaths than most leading causes combined (including AIDs, alcohol, illegal drugs, motor vehicle accidents, firearms, murders, suicides, and fire); and

WHEREAS, secondhand smoke [and vapor](#) contains many harmful chemicals and cancer-causing agents and is a serious health risk to humans, especially infants, children, and pregnant woman; and increases a nonsmoker's risk for asthma, heart disease, and lung cancer; and

WHEREAS, smokeless tobacco products are tobacco products containing many harmful chemicals and cancer- causing agents, and their use is associated with cancers of the mouth, gums, tongue, and throat; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Millinocket runs many recreational programs on properties owned or leased to the Town of Millinocket, and

WHEREAS, tobacco use in and around these recreational facilities creates the particular circumstance of young people being encouraged and coached by adults to do things beneficial to their health, while at the same time they observe adults and older youth using tobacco products and/or are adversely effected as a result of exposure to secondhand smoke and spit saliva: and

WHEREAS, staff and coaches are important role models for the youth that participate in community recreation activities, and whereas what coaches promote is respected and imitated by youth; and

WHEREAS the Town of Millinocket employs several people who are protected under Maine law (22M.R.S §1580-A) [and](#)

WHEREAS the mission of the Town of Millinocket is to provide healthy activities; it has an obligation to prohibit those activities which it deems contrary to this mission; and

WHEREAS, tobacco-use, exposure to second-hand smoke and exposure to tobacco saliva are contrary to enhancing the quality of life and providing safe environments for these experiences: and;

WHEREAS good communication informs the public and aids compliance with [this resolve policies](#); and

WHEREAS the intent of this [resolve policy](#) is to encourage a tobacco-free environment for residents, visitors, employees, and not alienate adults who choose to use tobacco products; [and](#)

WHEREAS [Everyone should comply with the town of Millinocket’s smoke, vaping and tobacco free resolve. The goal is to achieve voluntary compliance by educating employees, citizens, and visitors. Education is viewed as a shared responsibility of all those in the Millinocket community.](#)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MILLINOCKET TOWN COUNCIL does declare that its properties are tobacco-free and specifically restricts the use of any tobacco product, *including but not limited to* cigarettes, e- cigarettes, [vaping pens](#), cigars, smokeless tobacco products and any new tobacco products of any and all types, on, in or at the Town of Millinocket Cemeteries, Parks and Recreation grounds/facilities (athletic fields, playgrounds as well as all grounds within town-owned property lines) and any municipal grounds/buildings *except* for designated employee smoking areas, as specified per building.

The following guidelines shall direct the reasonable accommodation to be observed under this resolution’s adoption:

- Sidewalks/parking lots/state highways adjacent to Town owned property shall be exempt from this [resolve proclamation](#). ([22M.R.S.A. §1542](#))
- Tobacco, [e-cigarette and vaping pen](#) use on all school grounds being used by the Town of Millinocket shall be prohibited by State law. ([22 MRS §1578-B](#))
- Designated smoking areas shall be at least 20 ft. from any entrance, window, vent or doorway which would allow secondhand smoke to circulate back into the building *is prohibited*, by Maine state law (22.M.S.R.A §1580-A)
- Employees are permitted to smoke in any designated area, an employee’s personal vehicle, and any portion of grounds that is outside the limitations of this resolution.
- Per personnel rules, employees are prohibited from smoking in any Town-owned equipment or Town vehicle

Resolve #1-2015 Tobacco Free Zones February 12, 2015
Amended June 27, 2019

Attest:

Diana Lakeman, Town Clerk

____Date: