

Warned:
Adopted:

**TOWN OF TOWNSHEND
SMOKING AND TOBACCO POLICY**

The Select Board of the Town of Townshend, Vermont, in order to be in compliance with 18 VSA 1421 et seq., hereby establishes this Smoking and Tobacco Policy to protect workers by prohibiting smoking and the use of tobacco products in the workplace, except in designated areas.

The United States Surgeon General, in his 1986 report on Involuntary smoking, concluded that involuntary smoking is a cause of disease, including lung cancer, in healthy non-smokers and the simple separation of smokers from non-smokers within the same air space may reduce, but does not eliminate, the exposure of nonsmokers to environmental tobacco smoke.

Tobacco products are any products designed for the consumption of tobacco or tobacco substitutes, including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipes, snuff, chewing tobacco, e-cigarettes, or other electronic devices made for inhaling or absorbing nicotine or other vapor.

Smokeless tobacco is a significant health risk and is not a safe substitute for smoking cigarettes. According to the Centers for Disease Control, smokeless tobacco contains 28 cancer-causing agents (carcinogens). It is a known cause of human cancer, as it increases the risk of developing cancer of the oral cavity, other oral health problems, and can lead to nicotine addiction and dependence.

In light of these findings, smoking and the use of smokeless tobacco products is strictly prohibited within all Town owned vehicles and within all Town owned buildings including the Town Hall, Townshend Library, Townshend Fire Station, and the Highway Garage and upon the municipal properties surrounding them.

This Smoking and Tobacco Policy applies to everyone and shall be appended to the Town of Townshend Personnel Policies. A copy of this Smoking and Tobacco Policy shall be posted in all Town owned buildings.

Approved by the Townshend Select Board:

Date: ___June 27, 2017_____

