



metro vancouver



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SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR A LIVABLE REGION

Metro Vancouver Regional Parks No Smoking Policy

What is Metro Vancouver's policy prohibiting smoking in regional parks?

Effective January 1, 2012, smoking is prohibited in Metro Vancouver Regional Parks, except for designated areas. This prohibition applies in all regional parks and greenways managed by Metro Vancouver, including regional parks in the City of Abbotsford.

BACKGROUND

Why is the smoking prohibition in place?

Metro Vancouver is committed to a healthy urban environment as well as active living and wellness. Moving towards smoke-free parks helps:

1. protect park users from the effects of second-hand smoke;
2. reduce the amount of litter associated with smoking (cigarette butts and filters are the most common forms of litter found on beaches);
3. protect birds and other wildlife from cigarette butts (which, when ingested, can have fatal effects), and reduce the risk of fire.

Metro Vancouver's initiative to control smoking in regional parks has the full support of agencies such as the Canadian Cancer Society, Vancouver Coastal Health Authority, Fraser Health Authority and municipal fire departments.

Who does the smoking prohibition affect?

Anyone who enters or uses a regional park or greenway managed by Metro Vancouver.

When does the smoking prohibition take effect?

January 1, 2012.

How is the smoking prohibition being communicated to park visitors?

In addition to this webpage and media releases, there are notices at park

Resources

Questions or comments can be sent to webmaster@metrovancover.org

Additional information about smoking, its effect on people's health and the environment and assistance with quitting can be found at these websites:

- » [Vancouver Coastal Health Authority](#)
- » [Clean Air Coalition of B.C.](#)
- » [Canadian Cancer Society](#)
- » [BC Lung Association](#)
- » [British Columbia Ministry of Healthy Living and Sport](#)
- » [BC Cancer Agency](#)

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kiosks, and at other key locations in each regional park.

Groups who book programs, services or facilities (e.g. picnic shelters) in the park are notified at the time of booking.

APPLICATION

What areas does the regulation apply to?

All areas except those signed as a designated smoking area.

The provincial Tobacco Control Act and Regulations prohibit smoking:

- in a building, structure or vehicle if it is a place the public is normally invited to;
- smoking in a vehicle where children under the age of 16 years are present;
- in a workplace, and
- within three (3) metres of a doorway, window or air intake.

FAQs

ENFORCEMENT
