

The [Glen Rock](#) Borough Council adopted an ordinance making borough recreation areas and other facilities smoke-free zones.



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The measure was approved unanimously on second and final reading at the council's Sept. 11 public meeting.

The no-smoking provision applies to all recreation and other buildings, parks, playgrounds and fields. The ordinance also specifies that the ban does not apply to parking lots or vehicular access roadways associated with those venues, unless smoking is already prohibited in those areas by "other

applicable law."

Officials drafted the ordinance after a resident informed Councilwoman and Parks and Recreation chair Joan Orseck that borough pool users were using an area off one corner of the pool where smoking was apparently permitted.

"I was never aware of that," Orseck said. "No smoking should be allowed in a public park. It is a health issue and the council has acted accordingly."

Orseck said officials had been relying on the state law prohibiting smoking inside public buildings, and as a result had no local measure on the books.

"We have made a decision to keep our children and adults in a healthy environment when enjoying a sporting event or just being in our parks and enjoying themselves. I truly believe that the council has done the right thing for our citizens," she said. "We talk a great deal about safety, and now we have included health in our safety concerns."

The new law sets a maximum penalty of \$1,000 or a period of community service not to exceed 90 days for persons convicted of a violation. It also stipulates that clearly visible signage denoting areas covered by the ordinance be provided.

"To the extent possible ... signs shall be clearly, sufficiently and conspicuously posted at properties where smoking is prohibited," the ordinance states. "The signs shall have the words 'Smoke Free Zone' in lettering that is not less than two inches in height and shall contain the international; 'no smoking' sign," the text reads.

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