

ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING ARTICLE III (PARKS AND RECREATION AREAS) CHAPTER § 285-14 AND § 285-18 OF THE NORTH BRUNSWICK MUNICIPAL CODE

THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BRUNSWICK HEREBY ORDAINS:

WHEREAS, countless studies have revealed that secondhand smoke is harmful to the safety and health of the general public; and

WHEREAS, the exposure to secondhand smoke increases the risk and severity of asthma attacks in children and respiratory illnesses in adults; and

WHEREAS, due to these concerns the Legislature enacted the Smoke-Free Air Act in 2006 prohibiting smoking in indoor public places and in the workplaces; and

WHEREAS, the public needed additional safeguards from secondhand smoke; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature amended and supplemented the Smoke-Free Air Act in 2018, to prohibit smoking at public parks and beaches; and

WHEREAS, the additional prohibitions would protect the public while preserving nature by reducing litter and increasing fire safety; and

WHEREAS, the Council for the Township of North Brunswick intends on protecting the safety and welfare of its residents and parks by approving an ordinance to enforce the Smoke-Free Act.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NORTH BRUNSWICK THAT:

I. As used in Chapter § 285-14, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

Smoking: The burning of, inhaling from, exhaling the smoke from, or the possession of a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe or other matter or substance which contains tobacco, **cannabis**, or any other matter that can be smoked, or the inhaling of smoke or vapor from an electronic smoking device.

II. As used in Chapter § 285-18, the following language shall be added:

A. Individuals are prohibited from smoking at any public parks.

1. **A notice shall be displayed in every park for visitors.**

2. **An individual that is in violation of this act due to cannabis, is subject to a fine:**

a. **First offense: \$250.00**

b. **Second offense: \$500.00**

c. **Subsequent offense: \$1,000**

3. **Violations may be issued by the sworn officers of the North Brunswick Police Department and officers of the North Brunswick Department of Health.**

A. All ordinances and parts of the ordinances inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

B. This Ordinance Shall Be a part of the North Brunswick Code as though codified and fully set forth herein. The Township shall have this Ordinance codified and incorporated in the official copy of the North Brunswick Code.

C. This ordinance shall take effect as the time and in the manner as provided by law.

*New language is **underlined and in bold**.