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Meet the Presenter



Ami Badiye
Ocean Lakes High School
Y Street Leadership Team



Christine Huelquist
Granby High School
Y Street Leadership Team



What is YST?



- Y Street is the Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth's award-winning volunteer statewide youth initiative.
- Launched in 2004 to work on 2 major issues: **TOBACCO & OBESITY**
- Partnered with **90+** High Schools across Virginia to train and engage youth in policy change.





SHARE
THE **AIR**

WHY A VOLUNTARY POLICY?

Currently, **Virginia has laws in place that limit** counties, cities, and towns in passing their own smoke-free laws.

However, parks and recreation departments can adopt a voluntary policy, to encourage visitors to refrain from using tobacco and vape products.



Powhatan Parks & Recreation adopt a voluntary tobacco-free outdoor policy



ADOPTING A COMPREHENSIVE POLICY MEANS:

- ✓ **Encouraging no tobacco and electronic smoking device use** in all outdoor recreational areas **at all times.**
- ✓ Posting **tobacco-free and e-cigarette-free signs** in visible, prominent locations.
- ✓ **Notifying** staff and volunteers about the tobacco-free and e-cigarette-free policy and encouraging adherence.
- ✓ Announcing and posting the policy to **inform your communities.**





95% of Virginians believe that cigarettes, empty e-cigarette, and vaping cartridges are litter, and are toxic to humans and animals.



81% of Virginians believe tobacco litter negatively impacts their outdoor experience.



93% of Virginians are in favor of tobacco-free outdoor policies.



MESSAGES OF SUPPORT

I support a smoke-free and vapor-free space because secondhand smoke sets a bad example for our kids as well as compromises their health. The direct health effects of allowing smoking and vaping should not be ignored and establishing smoke-free zones establishes that precedent.

Virginia Resident, 22901

**7,101
Messages
of
Support
Collected**

I support Share the Air because it is important to know that smoking doesn't only affect you, but the ones around you.

Virginia Resident, 24017

I support smoke-free and vapor-free space to protect our earth and resources. The litter left behind ends up in our waterways. Additionally, it consumes people's financial resources. Lastly, it creates a safe and welcoming space for everyone when smoke and vapor aren't present.

Virginia Resident, 22664

My children deserve to play in parks or open spaces without breathing in smoke!

Virginia Resident, 23608

Community Partner Engagement

Dear Mayor Dyer,

At the request of Share the Air, the Virginia Beach Clean Community Commission has unanimously agreed to support their mission to provide a smoke free, vapor free and tobacco free environment for the public outdoor areas in our community. The Commission came to this conclusion for the following reasons:

- 1) Tobacco products account for nearly 40% of all littered items and the Commission is all behind litter prevention in order to have a cleaner and more beautiful city while providing awareness of environmental stewardship
- 2) Taking steps to eliminate outdoor tobacco and e-cigarettes provides educational opportunities to engage the public on environmental stewardship activities which is a major part of our mission
- 3) Second hand smoke exposure can lead to health issues especially among children. With this program the ability to improve the City's environmental vitality is enhanced.

Further information can be provided via brochures and a formal presentation from Share the Air if desired,

Thank you for your consideration of the advisory letter.

Maury Hill
Chair, VBCCC



Virginia Beach Clean Community Commission Letter of Support



CALL TO ACTION

- Sign a commitment form to commit to adopting an 100% tobacco-free and e-cigarette-free outdoor policy.



PLEASE FILL OUT THIS FORM IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD YOUR MUNICIPALITY OR COUNTY TO THE SHARE THE AIR SIGN-ON LETTER

The Town of Shenandoah is committed to providing a 100% tobacco-free and vape-free parklands, park facilities, and open public spaces in order to provide a clean, healthy, and safe environment for all Virginians.

Signing this letter is self-enforcing and voluntary. No tobacco nor use of any electronic smoking device is allowed on publicly owned parklands, park facilities, and open public spaces.

As part of this agreement, the signee agrees to:

- Establish voluntary compliance to prohibit tobacco and electronic smoking device use on parklands, park facilities, open public spaces, all enclosed and designated areas, including common areas, playgrounds, and shelters.
- Enforce the tobacco and e-cigarette-free voluntary policy when violations occur. If a person is in violation of the voluntary compliance, an owner, manager, or park employee will direct that person to extinguish (or turn off, if electronic) the product being smoked or vaped.
- If a person continues to violate the voluntary compliance, an owner, manager or park employee can inform that person that a violation constitutes as a nuisance.
- Park staff will be informed of the voluntary policy and given enforcement statements to help encourage voluntary compliance and will help to distribute flyers informing the community of the voluntary tobacco- and e-cigarette-free policy.
- Post signage in a manner and location that adequately informs the community of the tobacco- and e-cigarette-free policy.
- Advertise and promote this policy on the municipality's website using provided campaign language.

Clinton D. Lucas Jr. Mayor

Individual Completing this Form Title

FREE Tobacco-Free Signage

ALUMINUM SIGNS: BEST FOR OUTDOOR AREAS

- Sign Poles/Lampposts
- Fences
- Athletic Fields or Playgrounds
- Parking Lots
- Outside of Buildings

DECALS: BEST FOR ENTRIES

- Windows
- Glass Doors



Aluminum Signs
12" x 18"

Decals
8" x 8"



Free Resources

Toolkit Includes:

- Tobacco-Free and E-Cigarette-Free **Model Policy**
- Comprehensive **Policy Checklist**
- **Implementation & Communication Resources**
- And more!



Fauquier County commits to smoke-free parks County is 8th in Virginia to adopt Y-Street 'share the air' campaign

By Shannon Clark Fauquier Times Staff Writer Mar 1, 2023 Updated Mar 2, 2023 0



Fauquier High School students and Y Street members promote smoke-free parks at a high school track meet.



TOP STORY

Hanover, Chesterfield partner with youth program to discourage tobacco use in parks

2,657,618 Virginians are protected!



- | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Winchester | 12. Henrico County | 22. James City County |
| 2. Fauquier County | 13. Powhatan County | 23. Fairfax County |
| 3. Town of Stanley | 14. Chesterfield County | 24. Falls Church |
| 4. Town of Shenandoah | 15. Hopewell | 25. Fluvanna County |
| 5. Town of Warrenton | 16. Town of Alberta | 26. Campbell County |
| 6. King George County | 17. Franklin County | 27. Town of Smithfield |
| 7. Town of Colonial Beach | 18. Martinsville | 28. Pulaski County |
| 8. City of Lexington | 19. McReynolds Athletic Complex | 29. Greene County |
| 9. Hanover County | 20. City of Fredericksburg | 30. Emporia |
| 10. Town of Ashland | 21. City of Alexandria | 31. Greensville County |
| 11. New Kent County | | |

QUESTIONS?

