



City of Cottonwood
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MEDIA RELEASE

Release by: Cottonwood Parks and Recreation Department

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“City Parks Officially Tobacco Free”

Cottonwood, Arizona (May 18, 2015) On March 17, 2015 the Yavapai Anti-Tobacco Coalition of Youth Commission proposed the Cottonwood City Council approve a new ordinance prohibiting the use of tobacco in public parks, except in designated areas. One of the graphic ways the youth outlined the need for such an ordinance was by showing the council several canisters full of cigarette butts they had picked up from the ground at two of our local parks.

Mayor Diane Joens stated, “Our parks should be clean, healthy places for our children to visit. It makes sense to protect our citizens and visitors from second-hand smoke and at the same time, reduce the litter due to improperly discarded cigarette butts and chewing tobacco. Creating smoke free zones ensure the thousands of visitors to our parks each year will have a safe and healthy environment.”

The council agreed with the youth and this new ordinance came into effect on April 17th and this week new signage has been posted at six (6) City of Cottonwood Parks.

These signs indicate the parks are now tobacco free except for designated tobacco use areas per City of Cottonwood Municipal Code 8.68. Staff has designated tobacco use areas to be both visible and accessible yet not impede on those choosing not to use tobacco products.

Parks included are: Riverfront, Garrison, Viejo, Old Town Activity, Lions and the Kid’s Park on 12th St.

If there are questions about the locations of the designated smoking areas, please contact Ryan Bigelow, Recreation Services Supervisor, at 639-3200 or email rbigelow@cottonwoodaz.gov.



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