



OOPS

CODY SAYS:

You May Not Know...

Wheat Ridge City facilities, parks, and open spaces are now smoke and vapor free!

The City of Wheat Ridge defines smoking as inhaling, exhaling, or carrying any burning tobacco or other plant matter or inhaling vapor containing nicotine, THC, or other chemicals. This includes but is not limited to: cigarettes, cigars, chew, pipes, e-cigarettes, vape pens, and other vapor devices.

Wheat Ridge joins cities with similar laws, including Edgewater, Lakewood, and Golden, that also added the use of vaporizing devices to smoke free laws. Donna Viverette, Health Promotion Supervisor of Jefferson County Public Health says, “smoke free policies can help tobacco users quit and prevent youth from starting.” City Ordinance #1584 makes the following areas smoke and vapor free:

- Outdoor parks, trails, and open space, sports fields, and other recreation areas
- The 15-foot perimeter around main building and facility entrances
- Public transit waiting areas, bus stops, shelters, light rail platforms, etc.
- Indoor areas of businesses and other facilities open to the public

City staff will be handing out educational cards and flyers to remind [patrons of the smoke and vapor free ordinance and the Wheat Ridge Parks and Recreation Department will be posting additional smoke-free signage at parks, trails, playgrounds and ballfields.

The ordinance was adopted in October 2015 by City Council, based on the growing medical and scientific evidence showing the detrimental effects of smoking. It is not intended to infringe upon the personal right and decision of a person to smoke or use tobacco products. Tobacco use and secondhand smoke exposure take the lives of more than 5,100 Coloradoans every year. Reducing exposure to second hand smoke helps reduce the risk for heart attack, asthma, chronic bronchitis, lung disease, and certain types of cancers.

Quitting can be hard. Colorado’s free quit line is available to help at –800-QUIT Now. Thank you for respecting the health of fellow Wheat Ridge residents, visitors, pets, and environment.

For more information on Ordinance #1584, please visit ci.wheatridge.co.us/ArciveCenter/ViewFile/Item/3329.