



**Smoking in Parks Survey Results**  
**November 30, 2017**

Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation



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## **I. Survey Description**

On November 20th, Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation sent out a survey to collect public opinion data about rules regarding smoking, vaping, and the use of tobacco products in parks and open spaces. The survey closed on November 29th. The survey was conducted to help inform the Park Commissions of Washoe County, Reno, Sparks, and Carson City, all of whom are considering policy recommendations related to smoking in parks. This survey was conducted solely by Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation and was not commissioned by any local government. Aggregated results found in this report are in the public domain.

## **II. Data Collection Methods**

Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation used Google Forms to create and administer the Smoking in Parks Survey. Electronic communication was primarily used to garner responses. Demographic information, including first and last name, email, and address were collected to ensure non-duplication of responses. Personal information will never be disclosed to any outside organization or agency. These data are solely used to update Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation's records.

The survey was sent out on the following platforms:

1. Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation Facebook paid advertisements
  - a. Advertisements targeted individuals 18 or older living within 25 miles of Carson City, Sparks, and Reno. No further targeting parameters were included.
2. Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation electronic newsletter
3. Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation's website including
  - a. A photo link on the homepage of the website
  - b. A website page linking directly to the survey
4. Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation Facebook page
5. Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation Twitter page
6. Truckee Meadows Parks Foundation Instagram page
7. Partner nonprofits and agencies shared the survey to their own constituents
8. Publicized through local media outlets



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## III. Survey Results

In total, 984 respondents participated in the survey. Duplicate responses from the same individuals were removed from the survey to ensure the veracity of the results. Survey submissions received from individuals living outside of Nevada were also removed. This reduced the number of legitimate submissions to 963 distinct responses.

The survey indicated a strong majority (76%) of individuals would like some regulation governing smoking in parks, whether it be a total ban or the creation of designated smoking areas. A majority also supported curtailing the use to smokeless tobacco (67%) and vaping (72%) in parks.

### Figures:

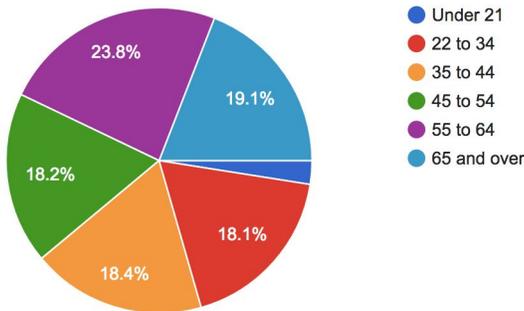


Figure 1. Age breakdown of respondents.

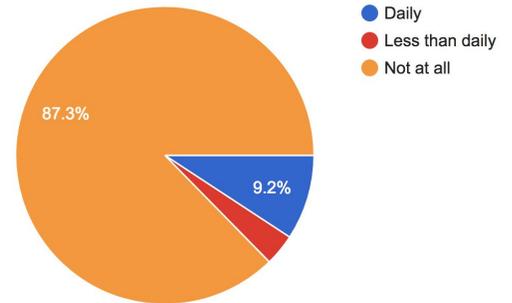


Figure 2. Respondents use of smoking tobacco products.

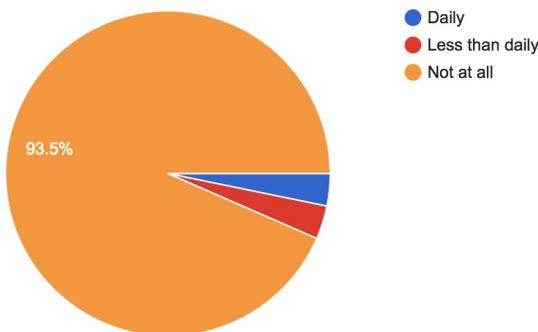


Figure 3. Respondents use of smokeless tobacco products.

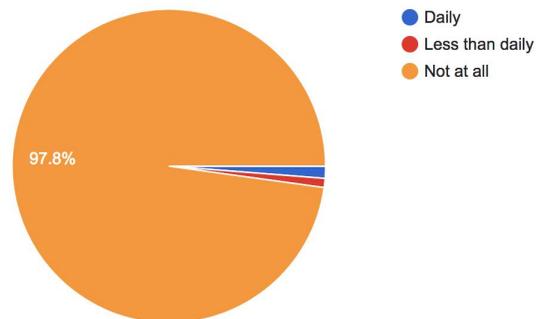


Figure 4. Respondents use of e-cigarettes and/or vaporizers.



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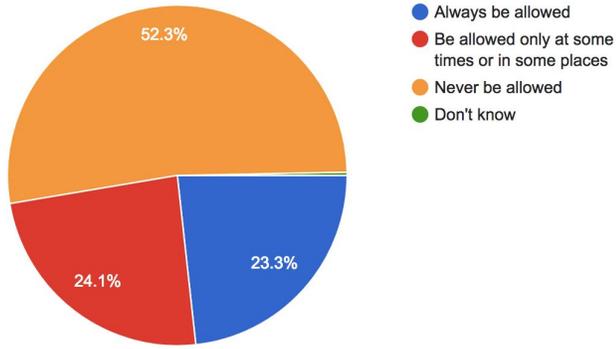


Figure 5. Respondents beliefs regarding smoking tobacco in parks.

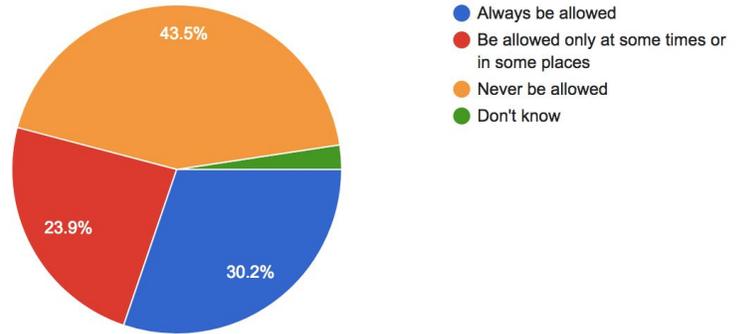


Figure 6. Respondents beliefs regarding smokeless tobacco in parks.

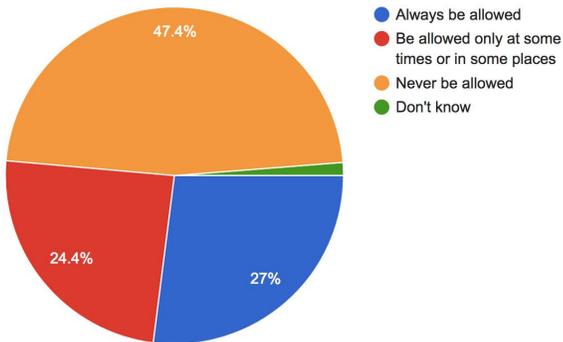


Figure 7. Respondents beliefs regarding e-cigarettes/vaping in parks.



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## IV. Additional Comments

The final component of the survey was an optional comments section. 443 participants responded. Common themes included a strong concern that:

- any regulation of smoking in parks would be correcting a problem that does not currently exist in the Washoe County, Reno, Sparks, and Carson City parks;
- tobacco products should not be used around children in parks;
- any regulation of smoking in parks would be an infringement on individual rights and would be government overreach;
- any rules or regulations curtailing cigarette use in parks would be unenforceable;
- designated smoking areas should be considered in parks and open spaces;
- cigarette butts are a fire hazard;
- cigarette butts are contributing to the litter problem in parks and open spaces.

**The following is the complete list of additional comments. No edits have been made to the comments. Comments are reported in alphabetical order. Please be aware that some responses represent strong opinions and may not be appropriate for sensitive audiences or children.**

- A big problem with permitting vaping is that there is no way to tell what substance is being vaped. In Colorado, vaping marijuana is a common way to circumvent public use rules. Nobody should have to risk being unknowingly exposed to secondhand THC when trying to enjoy the public park.
- A park is a place for family and I'd hate to see smokers where my children are playing. In addition, the smoke will add to the air's pollution.
- A person's choice to use tobacco products, whether in the form of cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, or e-cigarettes, is completely individual. A person's choice should not negatively impact the health, safety, and well-being of other individuals, however. The use of tobacco products impacts others around the individual users, and more than the inconvenience and discomfort, their use has negative health impacts on those who choose to abstain from their use. Parks are for the use of the community, and behavior of any kind that makes the community's enjoyment of our parks unpleasant should be disallowed.
- Absolutely no smoking around children. Outside in open spaces should NOT be banned. Smokers: Please be respectful of those who do not smoke. Nevada: please do not become "California Junior."
- After so many clean ups over the last 17 years, the majority of what I pick up has been cigarette butts in the wood chips near play areas and in the tree lines. It's fire hazard as well as gross. I was



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surprised how much trash associated with vaping was picked up this fall by me and my kids at various parks.

- After the broken glass, used needles and drug dealers are wiped out of our parks and you have found enough housing for the homeless then you might consider addressing the smoking issue.
- All of these activities are unhealthy for the actors and those around them. Also, users of these products leave their butts and other waste for others to pick up. I know from participating in the Truckee River clean-up where cigarette waste was overwhelming and accounted for most of the debris I picked up.
- All types of smoking should not be allowed. Our young generation needs a safe, healthy, and fresh environment to learn and grow in without the smell of death soaking in their lungs
- Allowing smoking/vaping/smokeless in only some areas would be too hard for already limited staff to enforce. Ban it all together to make it easier for all. Then there is no confusion as to where you can or can't smoke.
- Also smoking Marihuana!
- Although I am not a smoker, I don't have a problem with smoking/vaping in any outdoor arena. As long as the smoke has room to disburse, I'm not opposed. In regards to chewing tobacco, I don't see any need for regulations, other than the chewer needs to contain and dispose of the detritus in an appropriate garbage can. Thanks.
- Although I do not smoke and I think it is terrible for your health and is a huge burden on health care costs, I don't think it is right to not allow people to smoke in public spaces. I have seen park users chastise other park users for smoking, dogs, littering and other infractions and it is ugly to watch. I would not like to create another reason for people to fight in public. I would have written, "Always be allowed" except smoking can be a fire hazard and that is important to remember.
- Although I don't smoke and I hate smoking and the smell of cigarette smoke, I don't believe that the government should heavy-handedly prohibit smoking in an open area. I only have one friend who smokes a pipe and he usually goes off by himself to do so. This country should be about freedom. I also don't think it's possible to prevent folks from smoking in a park anyway. I'm not willing to confront them, as I would in a restaurant, and to call the police seems excessive. Not enforceable.
- Although I moved to OR in July, I still manage Truckee Meadows Tomorrow. There's clear data on the health impacts of second-hand smoke. Smoking should be banned in all public spaces. Tax dollars are better spent on needed infrastructure, law enforcement, etc. than preventable health diseases.



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- Any environment which caters to children, such as a park, should not allow tobacco product usage.
- Any offended person can discreetly walk up wind in a park. maybe some limitation in an amphitheater or gazebo. I don't smoke but I see no good reason to tell other how to enjoy open spaces.
- Anytime you're outside...its a good thing...leave em alone and smell the auto fumes.....snicker snicker
- As a former employee of Washoe County Parks, I believe that smoking cigarettes should be prohibited. Smokers are irresponsible and leave their cigarettes on the ground. This is a fire hazard as I often picked up cigarettes at the fishing pond and areas that were covered in pine needles.
- As a former smoker I feel smoking in parks should be allowed, if others don't approve the are more places in a park other than being close to a person smoking. A park is a big place, on the other hand smokers should respect those that do not smoke if they were in that spot first.
- As a non-smoker I would prefer to never have to deal with smoke at a park. However, I could see smokers making an argument that they should be able to smoke outside in an open space, so I think maybe limiting it to larger parks or more open park elements. At the same time this is probably nearly impossible to really enforce so maybe just not the best thing to focus on.
- As a physician there is ample evidence that these activities are bad for your health. We shouldn't risk our and our kid's health based on other's bad habits. Chewing tobacco spreads disease through spitting/saliva. Vaping puts off "less chemicals", but the chemicals involved include known carcinogens. Most people go to parks for the physical and mental health benefits. Let's support our community through modeling healthy behaviors for our children.
- As a public space smokers should be able to smoke where ever they want as they pay taxes. Laying this brick down could prevent some one from smoking in public at all. No matter their location
- As long as it's outside. Give them a break...you don't mind using their tax money for your parks
- As long as you aren't on the kids playgrounds it should be okay. It's outdoors
- As much as I hate cigaret smoke, I don't think it is right to enforce a no smoking law in open spaces. That being said, there could be designated smoking areas for folks who smoke. That really isn't going to solve the problem of cancer causing second hand smoke being breathed by someone who dislikes it or who may be on air support.
- As someone who is highly allergic to smoke it's hard enough to survive fire season. Why open it up and possibly risk more fires.



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- Aside from the danger and unpleasantness of drifting smoke and its smell, smoking shouldn't be allowed in our parks. Our parks should be full of children and adults pursuing a healthy lifestyle. The less children see or are exposed to smokers the better. Children are observers and naturally want to mimic what they see.
- At least to me, tobacco smoke is one of the most offensive smells there are. As much as I value personal freedom, I feel smoking tobacco should never be allowed where anyone else would have to be exposed to the smoke. Chewing tobacco and vaping are far less noxious alternatives, although those that chew shouldn't just spit anywhere.
- Away from playgrounds and children's activities
- Away from the children's play equipment and park bench and sitting area.
- BESIDES BEING OFFENSIVE TO SOME PEOPLE IT COULD CREATE A MESS IN OUR PARKS.
- Best thing to do really just do not bother smoking at all near kids playing including sport events.
- Big brother is too far reaching.
- Big difference between urban/city park rules and rural/open space parks.
- But I also feel like there should be more receptacles for cigarettes so that they are less likely to be thrown on the ground
- By designating areas, even though the smoke travels through the air, it acknowledges the rights of those who do smoke. They should not be made to feel like criminals. If I know an area is for smokers, I just avoid it like the plague!
- Can we add no smoking marijuana to the list please. It's hard to take my daughter to a park and then have to leave due to people smoking pot. I don't appreciate having to be exposed to second hand smoke whether tobacco or marijuana.
- Chewing is fine as long as people use a spitter and aren't disgusting about it. Honestly smoking is fine as well if people are responsible for their butts, don't start fires, and don't smoke around other people. Smoking will phase out, no doubt. I don't think we need to spend as much time criminalizing it, but instead focus our efforts on real education. I am a science teacher, and I tell my kids I will smack them if I ever see them smoke. I tell them their grandpa had an excuse; if they do then they're just stupid.
- Chewing tobacco is nasty but it doesn't bother anybody unless someone is spitting it on the ground. I would say to allow the tobacco but users must contain their spit. Smoking tobacco and vapo devices should be completely banned from public spaces! Without a doubt!



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- Children and adults should not be exposed to secondhand smoke from any of these sources in our parks and public places.
- Children are often present in these parks and open spaces. I work for Sierra Nevada Journeys and I have had to lead my group of children away from smokers and teach them in another area. Not only are cigarette butts an unsightly litter problem but there has also been research that shows that they leach chemicals into our streams, rivers, and ground. They contain all the carcinogenic chemicals, pesticides, and nicotine as the cigarette does.
- Children being in parks should not have to be around the smell of smoke, or left over remnants of smokeless tobacco or cigars, cigarettes, etc. due to health and lack of air quality with those substances around children while trying to play in a safe place.
- Children emulate what they see. Be a good example. I also care about my health and my families health.
- Children use these areas and should not have the negative influence.
- Children, elderly and others that should not have to be around smoke, vaping ect go to parks. Smoking should not be aloud because it is a health risk.
- Cig butts left on the ground are disgusting and so are the people who leave them.
- Cigarette butts are as unhygienic and unsightly as dog poop.
- Cigarette smoke is offensive. There are healthier alternatives, such as vaping that don't stink up the air. People are outside to enjoy the fresh air and recreate with their children and dogs. We should not be subjected to second hand smoke. Find a more considerate way to smoke or keep it at home or in the car!
- Considering the litter and health aspects associated with the various tobacco products smoked or otherwise ingested -- such a policy would enhance my enjoyment of our parks.
- Continuously finding cigarette butts and matches in brush and grass is very dangerous with all the fire dangers
- Could really get out of hand if allowed. If you feel you HAVE to make a space available should be far from where children play. It's a difficult decision with pros and cons. Good luck.
- Create more cigarette butt dispensers or ash trays available to smokers.
- Designate smoking areas
- designate smoking areas
- Discarded cigarettes and tobacco are toxic to dogs and I use the dog park daily



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- Don't become California and control every action of the public. That's the reason I left CA after 55 years.
- Don't discriminate
- Don't even think about trying to regulate people's behavior during a quiet afternoon at the park. People who smoke understand the implied etiquette when around others. I don't want to live in a nanny state; let California be that beacon.
- Each of these is a health threat to the person who is using them and to those around them. Tobacco companies kill their best customers. We should do everything we can to support health.
- Enclosed environments are one thing. Restrictions make sense there. The outdoors does not.
- exception - during events.. like Reno Street Foods.
- Finally, a ban I can get behind 🙌. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help make this happen.
- First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out—  
Because I was not a Socialist.  
Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out—  
Because I was not a Trade Unionist.  
Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—  
Because I was not a Jew.  
Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.
- For the consideration of others and a safer and cleaner park - smoking is not needed parks are to be a healthy place
- From an ex smoker and ex smokeless tobacco user ... Stay in your car with the windows up. No one else wants your second hand smoke, cigarette butts or spit all over.
- Given the high danger of fire throughout the region, it makes no sense to allow people to light up in these sensitive areas. All it takes is one not-quite-extinguished cigarette butt to create a huge disaster.
- Hate butts.
- Having worked for the parks department in Reno for 15 years, (while I would love to see no smoking allowed) I can't see this ever happening. There would never be anyone to enforce the rule. Parks staff have no enforcement capabilities, there are no Rangers to even enforce current rules such as littering, drinking, dog leash and waste pick up, and graffiti. While it may be feasible at special events in places like Wingfield park, it is unrealistic to control people's bad habits and behavior.



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- How can you possibly ban smoking in open outside areas. Absurd!!!!
- I also find that many people feel that they can smoke pot in the parks now and I find that disturbing. I feel that I cannot go to any open space or public event without getting assaulted by pot smoke as well as vape smoke and cigarette smoke.
- I am a board member for a baseball league in town and we have it in our rules that no ecigarettes, smokeless tobacco or smoking is allowed in the park while there are practices or games going on other than in the parking lot or on the side of the street as we dont believe the kids should associate smoking of any kind with the game of baseball and the same should be at parks as kids will think it's okay to smoke in parks around kids when older and as such not help kids learn how to be healthier
- I am a smoker of many years(not too boastful about it, but that is what I do). I do my very best to smoke away from folks as a respect. I feel it would be VERY unfair to take yet another right from those of us who pay taxes and contribute to society just because we do something to others who may get OFFENDED by because it is something that they don't agree on. We are ALL different, but the one thing we have in common is we all have faults. What is next? I'm afraid to find out!! If there are designated areas, then yes, I agree it should only be allowed there. I am a very courteous smoker, I do it away from others, unless they happen to pass by me. All of this rightchousness has to have boundaries!!!!
- I am an avid dog walker, and truly dislike the smell of smoking, and hate walking through it!
- I am concerned about fires in our parks. I am of a strong mindset for everyone to have the opportunity to experience our parks and get exercise whether they smoke or not. Due to the fire danger, I would not like to see cigarette's smoked. I do not see smokeless tobacco as a fire danger, I do not know if e-cigarettes/vaping are fire dangers. If not, I think they should be allowed without restriction.
- I am extremely sensitive to smoke and would have to leave the park, smokeless tobacco can be messy, residue is left all over the place.
- I am fine with smoking and e-cigarettes in open areas away from children's play areas as long as butts/trash are cleaned up and cleaning up trash is enforced.
- I am fine with smoking areas, as long as they are away from playgrounds, or other areas where children are around.
- I am opposed to any sort of tobacco use in our public parks and spaces. My main reason is that cigarette butts litter the ground in many areas already and I am concerned that it is only going to get worse.



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- I am thrilled that the regional governments are considering this for our parks and open spaces. Smoking and tobacco use generally leads to litter in our parks, which is bad all around. Also, families and children enjoying the outdoors shouldn't be exposed to secondhand smoke.
- I believe it should not be limited to tobacco but to include all forms of smoking of pot.
- I believe it's up to the person, if they want to smoke or not smoke. Personally it doesn't bother me.
- I believe people shouldn't be exposed to toxicity from tobacco 2nd and third hand smoke as well as animals be exposed to the toxic butt discards from smokers that do not dispose of their wastes responsibly.
- I believe second hand smoke from both cigarettes, CIGARS, and vape pose a health risk to many people. There should be designated smoking areas so those who are affected can avoid exposure.
- I believe that there should be some areas where tobacco users can be accommodated. Those areas should be maintained and cleaned on a regular basis.
- I believe there should be designated smoking areas so that people who do not smoke are not exposed to those who are smoking in public. It is often difficult to find a place where the air is not full of cigarette & vape smoke. It is disgusting! I also believe that smoking in parks & open spaces should only be permitted when it is safe and NOT in dry fire-prone areas.
- I can smell cigarette smoke from the car driving in front of me. Why should I have to smell that no less in a public park with my 2 yo kid? Go kill yourself in your own house. Leave me out of it.
- I do not enjoy taking my children to a park where someone is smoking or vaping. It is disgusting and not a good influence!
- I do not see the need to ban smoking in an outdoor area. While I don't smoke I feel this is going a bit too far and is somewhat ridiculous. However, I am very disgusted with how disrespectful smokers are in leaving cigarette butts all over the ground and especially in play ground areas for someone else to clean up.
- I do not smoke or use tobacco products at all nor do I use e-cigarettes or vape. However I don't think it's up to me or others to not do these things. My largest concern is the disposal of all of this. I have no problem with people doing any of this as long as they respect the outdoors and take the remains with them and not just toss or spit the tobacco on the ground. The same with cleaning up after your dog. I pick up my dog's waste and carry the bag with me so that others do not have to smell or see the waste or the waste bags on or off the trail. I just hope/wish people would have respect for others and our beautiful outdoors.
- I do not think it is government's job to ban a perfectly legal (and government subsidized) habit. You may restrict indoor smoking in buildings that are controlled by government. To ban tobacco outdoors, you must prohibit tobacco altogether.



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- I do not think that smoking should be allowed in playground areas. Other than that, I do not think smoking should be banned completely from parks or outside areas.
- I don't believe it should be allowed in parks. I think it would encourage children to smoke and that would definitely not be something I want any child or any encouraged to do.
- I don't smoke or use any tobacco products, I don't agree with a total ban. They are outside, where else could they possibly go? However I agree with a ban near children's play equipment.
- I don't think it is right for anyone to take away my right to smoke , I do agree that it should be in assigned area's !
- I don't think it should be allowed but how will you monitor, prevent it?
- I don't think limiting open spaces where people can smoke is fair, and creates an enforcement role that the parks would have to fill. I'd prefer additional effort to be spent on litter prevention, as butts on the ground is often the most visible and least welcome evidence of smoking in the parks.
- I don't think saying no one can ever smoke in an outdoor space is right, I do believe, for the health and enjoyment of others, that there should be areas where this is not allowed. I don't care to walk by people that are smoking. It makes my outdoor time much less enjoyable. I can avoid those areas where it would be allowed.
- I don't think there is any smell or debris from e-cigarettes/vaping. If I'm wrong, then they should only be allowed in designated areas also.
- I don't think you should eliminate smoking entirely, but to avoid having someone smoking next to me in a park, I think there should be designated areas for smokers.
- I don't want to be exposed to it, or it's waste. I don't want to walk by it or be in the area of it. And too many people are inconsiderate about their use around others. If you can identify specific areas for its use that or not in main walk areas, then I can understand this option. However, I don't want the free, roaming of smoking and tobacco in the parks when I can not count on others to be considerate of others and to clean up after themselves. I also recognize we need a balance of how much effort monitoring or prohibiting it will be needed.
- I don't believe smoke of any kind should be allowed because in the moment you might be caring for the people who are with you but the smoke blows away onto other people's face.
- I don't think that people who choose not to smoke should be exposed to second hand smoke when trying to enjoy the natural park environments.
- I don't want to go or take my grandkids to a park in Reno and see or watch or smell someone smoking. It's not allowed in public buildings -so why should it be allowed in public places or parks, especially where others want to be outdoors getting exercise or fresh air?



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- I feel people should use common courtesy and refrain from smoking near others unless it is a designated smoking area (at that point it's common sense for non smokers not to be around that area). However, if people having rights to "smoke where ever they please" means children would possibly have to suffer for others rude & selfish habits, I'm completely against it.
- I feel that nature should be respected and at the same time so do our rights. I feel that it is acceptable to have smoking areas and that includes smokeless tobacco because then that gets spat on the ground and can be, in simple terms, just gross.
- I feel that the absurd 'news' on 2nd hand smoke is just that - smoke. We don't tell people what to eat or do in a park, so why are we trying to exclude people based on what they do? I feel that if smoking is banned - then we should also ban soft drinks, sugary drinks and other unhealthy foods since a park is where you go for relaxation and other healthy habits. i feel that there are far more important things that need greater attention that having police come & arrest someone for smoking in the great outdoors - like gangs and gang shootings.
- I find it rude when someone smokes without considering that those around them may have allergies or health issues in regards to tobacco or Weed.
- I grew up in Santa Barbara at a time when there were few restrictions on where you could smoke. I didn't' see any problem created by that. After I received an honorable discharge and went back it all changed to smoking restrictions which I felt it affected everyone's rights including non smokers. I moved to Nevada to avoid California's restrictions, it felt like they were controlling your life.
- I hate smoke! It's not just the terrible smell, but it's also the butts thrown on the grown as trash, and as potential fire starters. I would not enjoy smoke at all in the parks. Not sure about smokeless or vaping (does it smell)?
- I have 2 children with asthma and am tired of having to smell and have my kids smell it!
- I have a right to enjoy the parks and when some one is smoking in not able to enjoy the area. It stinks, makes your eyes water and is very irritating.
- I have asthma and the smoke from vaping is just as bad as anything else. Even if you do a designated smoking area there is still the possibility that someone like me would need to go near there. Sometimes it's hard enough to breathe, let alone having to inhale smoke. It's awful so PLEASE consider the population that already has breathing issues.
- I have never been a smoker and have cigarette smoke. However, let's stop the regulation insanity. There are already laws in place for littering and throwing lit cigarettes around. Those are some hefty fines. Let's start enforcing what exists.



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- I have NEVER smelled tobacco smoke on any trails I have walked in the past several years. Mother Nature takes care of that. You can't control smoking in the parks. Please don't create an unnecessary rule.
- I have yet to see any situation in the last year that involved someone causing a disturbance by smoking in a public park, however I do agree that it is not appropriate for someone to be smoking anywhere near a playground or a semi confined space like some buildings on park property, an example being BBQ/ table areas. I also feel that electronic cigarettes can be much less offensive and less unhealthy to non smokers, and that fact should be taken into account.
- I help clean Woodtrail Park and it is so disgusting to have to pick up cigarette butts that are all over. It is as bad as cleaning up after all the dogs.
- I just really dislike the smoke in the air.
- I love the trees and open spaces and getting away from people. I don't care for the smell of cig smoke which takes away from the beauty of the outdoors. I'm not after taking away rights from smokers as they can destroy their bodies as they see fit, but I object to them taking away my right to a beautiful experience and impacting my health. It's bad enough their bodies and clothes reek of cig smoke smell.
- i moved here from california to escape all their over regulated state. please don't start the same crap up here
- I often run and exercise outdoors in the community parks and smoking makes it an unpleasant experience.
- I often smell cigarette and other smoke when I use the park. It is also annoying that tobacco users throw their butts and wrappers on the ground.
- I pick up cigarette butts in the dry grass next to old dry wooden fences a lot in my neighborhood park - and am afraid for a fire and it is filthy to have cigarette butts in the grass
- I prefer not having these products around however maybe a reasonable policy would be appropriate for those who do.
- I really believe we have other more pressing issues about which to issue and enforce regulations. Tobacco use in parks presents little problem to other visitors because parks, being open-air, allow for quick smoke dispersal and thus really small exposure to others and also allow one to easily move away from the smoker or vaper. I would rather see enforcement personnel engaged in real problems such as loud noises, illegal ATV or OHV usage, illegal firearms usage, dumping, and illegal fires.



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- I really don't like it when I am trying to enjoy "fresh air" and walk upon someone taking that away from me and my children by smoking. It is such a turn off to spend time in a public place when it is known that we can't enjoy it without being exposed to disgusting habits by some.
- I run every day in Wingfield Park trying to get exercise, only to have to suck up the second hand smoke at every turn. I am sick of it!
- I sit on the Reno Recreation and parks Commission. This is tough on those who do smoke. I kind of feel they are running out of places to smoke.
- I smoke, and I'm not comfortable with it in public parks! It's a fire hazard and bad for families and the environment.
- i SMOKED FOR 40 YEARS....SO I GET IT....PEOPLE ARE ADDICTED. BUT IT IS SIMPLY THE NASTIEST HABIT IN THE WORLD.....AND BESIDES THAT, IT IS GOING TO KILL YOU. I DON'T MIND IF YOU SMOKE. I JUST DON'T WANT TO HAVE TO DO IT WITH YOU. I ACTUALLY WENT BACK AND CHANGED MY ANSWERS FROM "SOME TIMES AND SOME PLACES TO "NEVER". IT JUST NEEDS TO STOP..... COMPLETELY.
- I strongly support banning all smoking in parks and open space for the following reasons: think of all the forest fires started by irresponsible people and smoking, when I am out walking in a park or on Peavine, I shouldn't need to smell someone's smoke.
- I take care of the Parks for Storey County. I've been doing it for 37 years. My only complaint is the parks being used as ashtray. It's unbelievable how many cigarette butts I pick up on a daily basis. If people would take care of their butts I'd have no problem with them smoking in a park.
- I there is a public function smoking should not be allowed where the crowds are, i.e., carnivals, etc. There should be designated areas, downwind, if possible. Smoke and its smell travels really far and can be annoying.
- I think designated smoking areas are the best way to keep parks safe from accidental fires, as well as provide an area for those who smoke/vape to feel welcome at the parks. We don't want to alienate people from using the parks!
- I think exposing people who do not smoke to second hand smoke is wrong!
- I think it is important to consider the safety of the parks and the participants, as well as the influence that smoking may have on children playing at the park, however, it is an outdoor space so if it in an area that has proper disposal receptacles and some distance away from playing children (to provide clean air and proper adult influence) then I think it would be a good compromise.



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- I think it is justified to post "no-smoking" signs near park equipment (play structures and ball courts) but to say no smoking in this big open outdoor space is really putting too much restriction on the issue. Smokers cannot smoke inside most public places, probably just in their homes, cars, casinos, and to tell them they can't go sit on a park bench to smoke would have a lot of back lash. I personally avoid all tobacco products and don't want my kids around it either, but if they are using ash trays and trash cans, I don't see why they couldn't smoke in the park away from children. I don't really see anyone following a rule like that, either, without any constant enforcement. Maybe no smoking during events at parks that have groups of people gathered and/or food vending.
- I think it would make sense to ban smoking/vaping for certain park events, (especially if the event is kid-friendly) and have specific smoking areas designated.
- I think our parks have a lot of other issues other than smoking. I don't think our resources should be diverted to that. I do think drug use including hard drugs, marijuana, alcohol, etc, should not be allowed. I have personally seen needles at the Miguel Ribera Park, which should be totally unacceptable. I think that if we can first not allow homeless people to sleep and loiter in parks that our kids are using, that would help a lot.
- I think people's rights are being taken away from them
- I think since it's open space the smoke or vapor shouldn't be a problem. There is always wind in the area.
- I think smoking / vaping should be banned due to fire risk and health risk of everyone outside exercising. I'm assuming smokeless tobacco won't pose a risk for fires or 2nd hand smoke.
- I think smoking in close proximity to others is rude. Although I think that it would be hard to enforce no smoking or regulating smoking in parks since it's open space which isn't routinely patrolled.
- I think smoking should be restricted to specific areas in all public places. There is nothing worse for a non-smoker to be sitting somewhere and have smoke or vapor in their face.
- I think that our kids shouldn't have to be subjected to others use of tobacco or e-cigs because they are using a park or public lands.
- I think the city resources should focus on bigger issues rather than micro managing it's citizens. Concentrate laws that punish people who are doing harm in place of dictating how people enjoy their free time.
- I think tobacco should be allowed in open areas with few people, not in playgrounds, sports fields, or other places where groups congregate.
- I think tobacco should be banned all the way around! They are disgusting



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- I used to be a smoker.
- I used to pick up cigarette butts for state parks in AZ
- I want to smell nature, flowers, trees etc at our wonderful parks; not someone's vapor or smoke.
- I was a smoker for years and appreciate the negative stigma smokers endure. I have no problem with smoking zones as long as those who want to avoid smoke would not have to walk through that area.
- I will not impinge on anyone's right to do to their own body what they will. I do not, however, believe anyone should be able to engage in harmful behavior that by its nature is harmful to people who choose not to indulge, simply because they happen to be in the same space. Restrictions on where and when anyone who wishes to indulge can do so are appropriate under the circumstances, with precautions in place to minimize exposure to the environment and other people in it.
- I will smoke outside in a park if I please. You idiots are taking this too far.
- I would like to see people pick up after themselves and not through their butts on the ground-this is inappropriate. Our outside spaces should not be restricted. We are not CA and don't want to become anything similar
- I would love to see smoking banned everywhere but do not think it is realistic and how would it be monitored. Cigarette butts are disgusting and many smokers just throw them on the ground without a care. Until smokers take responsibility and dispose of their butts, we will never have trashless parks and open space. Really hate when policies and regulations are created that can not be administered.
- I would not be opposed to having children's play areas at parks being smoke free/tobacco use free. Even though I smoke I make sure to walk at least 15+ feet away from children's play area and/or park equipment so the kids don't get any secondhand smoke from my cigarette. I would definitely be in favor of something like that but that's about it. I do not believe in making it illegal to smoke in open areas in general because that is infringing on people's rights in my opinion.
- I would prefer no cigarettes be allowed because of the smoke and the butts being tossed & the possible fire danger. The smokeless tobacco is being spit out & is a disgusting health issue. But I don't see how any rules could be enforced.
- I would rather see a tobacco/smoking area available in our parks than for products to be banned
- I would say "in designated spots" but the problem is they never stay there. They throw butts EVERYWHERE, they vap right next to you covering you in a cloud of disgusting pollution. If I believed smokers could stay in a designated spot (away from food and children) I would say it was



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acceptable, but I have NEVER seen a smoker be thoughtful or courteous, so maybe they should stay in their cars if they need nicotine, enjoy the park when done.

- I'm a ex smoker but it would be hard to enforce a no smoking ban my girlfriend uses a vape and there is no smell
- I'm a former smoker (25 years ago); it's a dangerous/deadly, stinky, ugly business, and has no place in our parks and open spaces! Thank you for the opportunity to address this issue!
- I'm an ex-smoker & cannot stand smoking but it is wrong to restrict that ability from people when they are outdoors.
- I'm definately against smoking in public spaces... i have asthma and breathing in cigarette smoke really bothers it.... now im not sure about the e-cigs and vapes.. if there is not a public health risk maybe they are ok.... dont know enough about them.... also am concerned that there would not b funds or staff to enforce a no smoking ban
- I'm not around people who smoke and don't want to be around it in public.
- I'm disappointed I have to provide personal information for your survey. The only problem I have with tobacco products used in parks is the smokeless (chew). I don't like the spit that goes along with it but this would be no different if tobacco was not involved. Smoking cigarettes, cigars, vaping, etc is not discouraging me from taking my kids to the parks. The crime, broken bottles, used condoms, etc (which are already banned) do prevent me from visiting.
- If a smoker wants to smoke in a private space that's fine. When they smoke in a public space and it affects my health and enjoyment that is not ok.
- If all smoking is banned, it will help curb the marijuana smokers also. Since it was made legal, smoking of it in parks has greatly increased!
- If at a park that has a large crowd (such as Rollin' On the River) smokers should have the courtesy to move out of the crowd to an area less congested. Therefore, to keep matters simplified, designate an area away from the crowd, but still in the park.
- If children are present smoking should not be allowed.
- If I'm outside I like to breathe clean fresh air
- If individuals choose to smoke in the privacy of their home that is their decision. However, smoking causes significant health problems for anyone exposed to it. Since parks are a public space, and smoking can reasonably be defined as hazardous to other's health, smoking should not be allowed in parks. Secondary to the health effects, both smoking (cigarette butts) and smokeless tobacco (chew spit, pouches) cause litter to build up in our parks which cost taxpayer money to clean up not to mention harm the image of our parks. Vaping, while not necessarily as harmful to



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your health, is still considered a nuisance as the vapor clouds linger for some time creating unpleasant smells. Why are people expected to pick up their dog litter but can throw their cigarettes wherever? Similarly, there are nuisance laws such as noise ordinances in parks, why would this not include nuisance to my health?

- If it's not a fire hazard it should be allowed. The use of cigarettes presents a fire hazard and should be restricted to areas that are safe.
- If kids are going to be around, we should remove the above, marijuana, and alcohol from the parks.
- If one were to ban smoking in public parks or areas then one would need to ban offensive clothing, language, and behavior in the same places.
- If only small progress can be made to ban all the above in parks and open space, at least a reasonable amount a feet near playgrounds and exercise areas and parking lots should be prohibited, if not for the whole park. Another idea, “smoking areas” down wind from everyone else.
- If people are outside there is plenty of space for a person to move away from what offends them.
- If people have less places to smoke maybe they will quit and live longer
- If people need to smoke let them do it in the privacy of there own home
- If People want to smoke they should be smoking in their own home and privacy , not in any public place .. it’s secondhand smoke ! And that is not good for all the non smokers . it’s not good for children to see that or inhale it . Children see the adults smoking it makes it look like it’s Ok and that’s why you see these young children smoking these days .
- If people were kind/smart enough to dispose of their butts or spit into a container my answers may be different. Sadly, we have to deal with generations who disrespect public parks and other areas with their litter.And, this is coming from an ex-smoker. Thank you.
- If the agency has to compromise, designate a place in the park, such as the parking lot where smoking is allowed. Away from playgrounds, buildings and picnic shelters. I would not worry about enforcement as it is a social issue and will be self-regulating and become a group norm compliance after a few years.
- If the city is considering opening up some events/spaces to the smoking of tobacco products, then marijuana should also be allowed. Both or neither.
- If there is smoking of any kind in a public place, it should be allowed only in designated areas. Those that have severe asthma or COPD, need to be able to avoid anyone smoking, or they are likely to need a trip to the hospital. I myself am on medications, surgical masks, oxygen tanks, and



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nebulizers in order to live an ordinary life. I avoid public areas because someone upwind of me is likely to light up.

- If we keep chip chip chipping away at our rights, the pretty soon we'll have no rights at all.
- If we want to promote health and set good examples for our children and improve health in our communities we will ban all three
- If were able to smoke indoor in casinos and such places the outdoors shouldd not be restricted. I go down to the river or walk in the park to think n smoke quite often and wouldnt appreciate the band very much
- If you ban cigarettes, ban perfume. That's how ludicrous this question even is. Stop trying to control the behavior of others and mind your own biscuits.
- If you don't want to be around a smoker who has made the choice smoke OUTSIDE, then you can make the make the choice to walk away.
- This campaign to take away the rights of smokers feels a lot like bullying!!! (i.e. We don't agree with your choice to smoke so we will take steps to limit your access to the few places you have left to light up)
- If you take into account the amount of money the state of Nevada collects in taxes every month from smokers it opens up a bigger conversation on their rights. However the amount of careless smokers in Nevada throwing their butts on the ground and out car windows or people that chew spitting on the ground tends me lean me towards the answer of no. But then you think about the people that don't pick up after their dogs and you being a secondary conversation regarding whats allowed in public parks and what's not. If smoking is so dangerous to the smoker and the secondary inhalers then we do we have tobacco for sale anyway. Ban tobacco sales in Nevada and this conversation goes away. But with a monthly collection close to 500 thousand dollars in taxes we all know that won't happen.
- Impossible to enforce and it infringes on peoples rights.
- In addition to the potential for second hand smoke, the cigarette butts that litter parks and playgrounds are a health and safety hazard for our children.
- In an open space it should be allowed. They respect my space as a non smoaker by going outside, we can respect their space by letting them continue to do so. It'll cause more issues in the long run if we try to restrict this, which would be practically impossible.
- In open air space I think it is ok if there is a situation like the concerts at Idlewyld a smoking area would appease everyone.



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- Is use of recreational marijuana in parks likely to be an enforcement issue in the public parks if smoking is allowed? There is a part of me that would say no smoking whatsoever for health, fire safety, & behavioral reasons.
- It also depends on what kind of parks. I don't believe someone should be smoking where children are present.
- It has been my observation that people who indulge in smoking products rarely dispose of them in a trash receptacle thus causing environmental hazard to our open spaces. The last thing I want to breath is air that has or is polluted with any form of tobacco.
- It is a public space for all to enjoy and if someone is smoking or valine then it is no longer a space for all to enjoy.
- It is available as an adult product for consumption. This is a \*fix\* seeking a problem that doesn't exist. Stop. I noticed you didn't ask about recreational marijuana - which I don't use - If it is 'recreational' it should be allowed to be consumed in a recreational venue, yes?
- It is open air, let's just try not to do it in front of children.
- It is shocking to me how many cigarette butts are just thrown on the ground, even in the parks. I have picked up thousands of butts in Davis Creek, Huffaker Hill and other county parks. I support regulation and enforcement. But to make it work, it has to be set up properly with signage, disposal sites, education and enforcement.
- It is so sad to be in a lovely outdoor location only to be enveloped in someone's cloud of smoke.
- It makes no difference, the city and county decide what they want done
- It pollutes the air that we all breathe, pollutes the ground we all walk on and pollutes the young minds into thinking it is ok to do.
- It sets a bad example for the children. It is a fire hazard. It is unhealthy for everyone. It leaves behind a mess. That is not what the park was built for.
- It should be banned in the State of Nevada . In any public place. It is harmful smoke to any and all people.
- It should not be allowed in public place. Especially where kids are. I don't smoke and I shouldn't have to deal with second hand smoke.
- It,s a park, it's outside, smokers pay taxes also.
- It's a public place, however designated spots should be available. Smoking shouldn't be allowed in the actual playground.
- it's a shame and scary that we are becoming a big brother is watching society.



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- It's an important decision. Tobacco use does not belong in parks.
- It's an outdoor public area. Why shouldn't a person be able to smoke there? Let's not turn Nevada more so into California than it already is.
- It's gross, smells bad, and second hand smoke is really bad for you, especially for your kids.
- It's sad and disgusting to take my child to play at the park and someone lights a cigarette forcing my children to breathe it in.
- It's outside in the fresh air. It dissipates. Use the current rules for around buildings, etc and leave it at that.
- It's unfair for others to have the health repercussions due to second hand smoke. People could smoke in their car or at home if its necessary. Smoking in public affects those whose choose not to smoke.
- Just a simple " Hell NO"!!
- Just not around children or playgrounds
- Just various recreation interests are accommodated so should "smoke" users. But time and place need to be limited because of fire danger and trash. Parks should not become the "place" to go for vaping or smoking and it will if there are no regulations.
- Keep California Nanny laws out of Nevada.
- Keep California out of Nevada.
- Keep our air clean for the future🙏
- Key word is Open Spaces. It's one thing to smoke in an enclosed area but we're talking outside & unless it is an Event inside the Park Area, smoking should be allowed outside even tho I can't stand the smell of it.
- Leaving the cig butts are the biggest reason to disallow smoking
- Let's get healthy.
- Let's start to clean Reno's air! The outdoors are the reason we moved here and should be the biggest draw to the region
- Lower our health costs. Ban them all everywhere and raise taxes in them too
- Make it easy
- Many of us are allergic to tobacco smoke, so I would rather there never be smoking in public places.
- Many times while in a park enjoying the fresh air, I've had to hold my breath because the person walking in front of me is smoking. About time this is stopped!



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- Maybe each park can have a designated smoking area?
- Maybe implement smoking sections of parks and non smoking parts. I don't smoke so I prefer to not be around smoke but I can't tell people no.
- Maybe just make playgrounds and sports areas smoke free since kids tend to frequent them and their bodies are still developing.
- More California influence....leave the people alone. You are taking away our liberties one law at a time. Go home already and take a break. If one does not like the smoke they can simply walk away and find another space.
- Most smokers are very courteous about smoking, as am I. It is just Common scene to not smoke around children, elderly or people that might be offended. No more laws are necessary, use your head.
- My issue with smoking in open spaces is the potential fire danger. As a resident on the urban wildland interface, I hike regularly on the Mt Rose Wilderness TH at Hunter Creek and the trails around steamboat ditch. Fire is our biggest fear. This goes for any activities that encourage drinking and smoking where reckless behavior can appear benign but be quite destructive when a butt is tossed. Given all the fires we have had up here, I am extremely concerned about cigarette smokers who aren't sensitive to the danger they pose when they discard their cigarettes without thinking. I know, I find uncrushed butts on the trails all the time. All it takes is wind, an ignition source and dry fuel. Final comment: the pollution from animal waste is atrocious in local parks. Dog owners pollute trails and ruin the beauty of being out in nature. The statistics around the health danger created from unchecked dog poop are sobering and a public health nuisance. Suggest another survey that addresses this growing problem in our local parks.  
<http://www.thedogdunit.com/poopcrashcourse.html>
- My objection to smoking is the debris but vaping is an aping of smoking and not a good example for our children.
- My son loves playing at the park. I don't want him having to breath in the smoke while he's playing. It would be great if it just wasn't allowed.
- My trouble with smoking in the parks is that those citizens are already ruining parks with cigarette butts and chew. It's disgusting to come across that on a playground where my children just want to have fun.
- Nasty



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- Nature is a place to respect others and respect plant and wild life and parks are a place for children. Cigarette butts around are dangerous for young children who may find them, as well as the smoke harmful to their health and the trees and wildlife around. Lighting anything could cause a fire as well. When people go to these places it is to be with nature not to be around addictive things or to watch other humans engage in self destructive behavior. Also we should limit the amount of exposure that young children have to others doing this, since it is influential in some manner.
- Never near playgrounds. Prefer no smoking but not practical to enforce. Allow in special place only so one can tell smokers to go there.
- No over night camping. No alcoholic beverages. All k-9s must be on a leash.
- No pot either.
- No smoking at all in public spaces
- No smoking in public places, same as any other drug, use it in private where it won't impact others
- No smoking near food spaces and designated children play spaces
- No tobacco use in parks. Especially around children and other people. Plus in a dry climate, you run the risk of fire. Will be hard to manage and police, but should be banned in parks.
- NO. NO. NO
- Not only does the smoke bother people but the smokers drop their cigarettes on the ground for some else to pick up
- Not only is it the issue of the smoke polluting the air, it is the issue of the cigarette butts thrown all of the ground.
- Not only is second hand smoke harmful and annoying; the potential for fires from dicarded cigarettes and matches is also an issue especially during the dry months.
- Nothing that burns down the forest should be fine. The rest doesn't even have second hand properties.
- Now stop the beggars and we will be doing even better. It's rediculous how bad the beggars are getting.
- One group of people should not be favored above others. In open spaces, those that do not like smoke can go elsewhere. If anything, allow for some smoke-free areas (such as children's play sets) but to make a public place entirely smoke free is unfair to a large part of our community.
- Open spaces are open to all. Hopefully people will quit or not start. Littering used butts, or not putting out properly and potential fire danger is what I believe is proper focus for monitoring smokers.....



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- Our children's lungs are at risk when people smoke! And mine.
- Outside!!! Seriously were banning out in open areas. Ridiculous!!!!
- Overall I believe it should be allowed, the only restrictions I believe that should take place is not smoking within close proximity of a playground or wherever there is a huge presence of small children.
- Parks are for all citizens, but we need to protect our children first.
- Parks are for the enjoyment of all people. Smoking and spit of smokeless ruins the experience for those that don't use tobacco. Those that choose to use, can do so at their own property, public space should be for all that want to smell the fresh air. Smokers can't contain their contamination.
- Parks are mostly full of children and families, we don't need to pollute it with smoke or spit. The cigarette butts are disgusting and everywhere, tobacco is a disgusting harmful habit in all forms.
- Parks are outside. As a smoker, I do not smoke in crowded places but parks are wide open spaces. If I want to have a cigarette, I should be able to smoke outside. I never throw cigarette butts on the ground. If I cannot find a trash can, the butt goes in my pocket until I find one. I think it is ridiculous to outlaw smoking outside. When I hear things like this, I believe more and more people are moving here from California and are trying to turn Nevada into a nanny state like California. Didn't they leave California for a reason?
- Parks are places where persons and families can enjoy the natural creations of our earth and smoking, in my opinion, takes away from that. The park should be places free from as many toxins as possible so that the atmosphere can be enjoyed to its fullest extent. Not only is smoking harmful to our health, it can be a danger to parks with the possibility of fires and littering. As a parent of young children who frequent parks, I would like my kids to explore rocks, flowers, trees, not cigarette butts left at the park by those who may not be considerate of their surroundings. I also would not want my kids playing in the park while someone is smoking and breathing in that smoke from cigarettes. I believe that we only have control over so much and if this is something that can be controlled or isolated from parks, it would be the best outcome. Thank you!
- Parks are where families and young people go to be together. Keeping parks tobacco free will clean-up the parks, keep smoking and chewing away from youngsters, and keep our parks healthy, clean, safe, and wholesome. Thank you.
- Parks should be open to everyone including smokers. I also believe we should maintain a smoke free environment for all those who wish it be. So smoking and spitting can be in designated areas and some designated shelters.
- Patriot
- People are banned from enough places from smoking



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- People can smoke on privately owned property and other public places that allow smoking.
- People run, exercise, bike, play sports, get together, young children play, pets are walked and much more in public parks. Smoking, in any form, is forcing people to smell and inhale a harmful choice they never made. Let's keep our parks fun and clean!
- People who are non smokers go to the park to enjoy fresh air and spend time outside. We don't go there to breathe their smoke. It's annoying and rude. Most people don't like smelling like an ashtray!!! Smoking is gross and it stinks!!!!
- Perhaps there could be smoking tents. Otherwise, I don't think smoking should be allowed. Yes, parks are a public place, but smokers don't have more rights to distribute their smoke on others who should not be subjected to it. Artown 2017 had way too many people smoking, vaping & even pot smoking at Wingfield Park. These events have many senior citizens, some with breathing machines and there are many children there too. Smokers, could politely refrain from smoking if there was a big educational campaign, advertisements in all Artown/Park literature, signage and perhaps fines for public nuisance if needed.
- Playgrounds and special events should have no smoking, but general park use should allow smoking, banning from parks altogether would be unfair. this is from ex smoker with copd. smokers are not 2nd class citizens
- PLEASE ban all tobacco in our parks! Parks are places where children and families should be able to breathe clean air and be healthy! Even the smokeless or vaping type are unhealthy and bad role modeling for kids. Ban it all!!!!
- Please ban use of these products in parks! Health of kids will be protected and it will reduce litter and chemical pollution from discarded cigarette butts. I once found a half-full tin of chew in the middle of a playground, that could have been very dangerous to my toddler.
- Please do not continue to over regulate people's behaviors in public places.
- Please have a steep fine for a person for littering cigarette butts.
- please protect the air we breathe
- Please protect the air we breathe
- Please smoke in your own space. Smoke bothers me and effects my health.
- Public spaces are for the public, not just the nonsmoking public.
- Public spaces should be as free as possible, and well-behaved dogs should always be allowed.
- Quit trying to take away where smokers can smoke. Also, are you trying to mimic California? After all this is Nevada. Get a grip. Quit trying to tell people what they can and can't do. Are you trying to take away people's rights same as the Federal Gov't seems to be doing.



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- Second hand cigarette smoke and vaping clouds are not what I want to break when I am at a park with my child, it even just enjoying nature and fresh air. It stinks and is unhealthy. Additionally, it is awful to always find cigarette butts laying all over the place.
- Second hand smoke can be avoided if more public places prohibited smoking. Let's keep our parks clean.
- Second hand smoke is bad for everyone especially kids
- Second hand smoke is dangerous and people should not be subjected to it in public places. Vaping and chewing sets poor examples for children, and I prefer not to be in proximity to either the vape exhaust nor spitting from either
- second hand smoke to my kids as well as nasty spitting for smokeless. Parks are already hard enough to keep clean without smoking challenges and trash.
- Second-hand smoke is horrible
- Secondhand smoke is a health hazard. There are questions about vape chemicals too. Parks are for fresh air. Please help keep it that way Thank you for addressing this issue
- Service up designated smoking areas. Not necessary to completely ban
- Should be banned because there's usually kids at parks and the smoke is bad for them
- Signs could be posted. Be fire safe. Do not litter.
- Since I'm a nonsmoker & allergic to smoke, especially cigarettes with asthma on top of that, it would be impossible to support any smoking anywhere.
- Smoke at home. There is no way to control smoke even in outdoor spaces so it will always impact non smokers.
- Smoke free and clean air is the future.
- Smoke in private if you have to but stay out of places where people are.
- Smokeless tobacco doesn't cause harm to others, so I don't take issue with people using outdoors except if they spit on the sidewalks. Cigarettes should be banned from use in public spaces period! Non-smokers are subjected to second hand smoke without a choice in the matter. Smokers can partake in their habit at home if that's what they choose!
- Smokeless tobacco is non-invasive to secondary individuals, therefore should not be restricted. Generally I am against any of these restrictions, but I do not particularly enjoy being around the second-hand smoke of others. Especially while I am immersing myself in the natural world. I have both smoked cigarettes and chewed tobacco in my life. I struggled with both and quit both. The biggest detriment to free reign is that it makes the process more difficult for those that wish to quit and struggle to do so, and may be seeking respite in nature. Unfortunately, I do not believe that



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public restrictions have a positive effect on the number of users of tobacco products in the community.

- Smokers don't have the right to spread public cancer! It's inconsiderate and outdated!
- Smokers have little regard for non smokers. They throw their butts everywhere. I apposition the smoke and nasty butts!
- Smokers/Chewers know what this activity does to their bodies, but don't care what it does to the people around them. I am tired of the smell, litter and gross spit everywhere. It would be nice to know that I can go to a park and safe from this garbage. Thank you.
- Smoking affects other people's quality of clean air. Smokeless products do not.
- Smoking and chewing tobacco are gross, and I wish no one did them. I don't know the healthcare community's take on vaping (or if they have even decided yet). Still, these are open spaces, and we should have some freedoms in them. If someone wants to feed the ducks or take a stroll or walk their dog or smell some flowers in the middle of a desert . . . let them do it. We don't need to restrict every-dang-thing.
- Smoking and dogs in parks should be allowed in some areas, but people should be fined for not properly disposing of waste. (poop and cig butts).
- Smoking and smokeless tobacco have waste and effect those around the user therefore should only be used in areas designated where proper Receptacles can be provided to avoid Health and safety of others such as fire and sanitary hazards.
- Smoking and tobacco products are not healthy, but I cannot see totally eliminating them from parks.....maybe in a designated area like at airports?
- Or go ahead and eliminate it all together. It is a really horrible habit! Meditate, dont medicate!!
- Smoking and vaping have no place in our parks. Please ban both of these and thank you for serving.
- Smoking areas are dwindling quickly, DON'T TAKE AWAY OUR PARKS!
- Smoking cigarettes should not be allowed.
- Smoking contaminates all the air around you, and often smokers leave ash and butts behind. You don't have a right to contaminate all of the air around you because you've managed to get yourself addicted to something gross.
- Smoking costs all of us money as we pay for those who become very ill. It damages all organs in the body. It should be made as inconvenient as possible.



# TRUCKEE MEADOWS PARKS FOUNDATION

*AWARENESS • APPRECIATION • STEWARDSHIP*

- Smoking damages both the smoker and the nearby non-smoker, often resulting in extra cost to society. This should not be tolerated in parks and in open spaces which are created by and for the common good.
- Smoking in any public place should be banned, not only for the general health of everyone around, but also to keep kids away from thinking it is ok. Smoking doesn't just endanger the person using it, it endangers anyone within 50 feet of them. It should be banned from all public places, not just parks.
- Smoking in parks is not a problem. Unless we want to supply bubble wrap suits and safety helmets to every person who chooses to venture outside. I mean come on, I go to area parks at least twice a week and rarely see people smoking cigarettes anyway. Plus dogs are more of a problem which seems to have been dealt with adequately. All in all, the parks here are well maintained and very nice compared to other places. Thanks and keep up the good work
- Smoking in Parks makes me not want to go to parks. My children do not need to be exposed to that.
- Smoking in public spaces exposes non-smoking people to second-hand smoke without their consent. This is a public health risk. I think smoking should be limited to private spaces where individuals are choosing to use or be exposed to smoke.
- Smoking is a filthy habit and smokers who toss their buds and litter our streets, parks, you name it should be fined and perform community service to clean up.
- Smoking is a fire hazard. Cigarettes, matches, lighters are all sources of ignition. Cigarette butts litter our parks and open spaces. Smokeless tobacco is a disgusting habit and expectorating leaves an unsavory residue. E-cigarettes/vaping smells and leaves a sickening odor in the air (no matter what users claim).
- Smoking is a hazard to other people as well as a huge annoyance to those wanting to enjoy our parks, and especially to non-smokers. It's an attraction to youths. It's a fire threat. It also contributes to a litter problem. Smokeless tobacco also contributes to a litter problem. Vaping in the open probably is not a threat to others so let those who enjoy it or need it use it. Their funeral.
- Smoking is legal, profiling against tobacco use in public areas restricts public access to public space. This type of discrimination should be subject to legal action and is a total waste of city and county resources.
- Smoking is okay at any time most anywhere in a park, but there should be no smoking at jungle gyms where kids congregate or near where people are eating.
- Smoking is out of control in Reno. People need to be stopped. It's harmful and disgusting.



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- Smoking is unhealthful. Parks are supposed to be healthy, clean places where we can go and enjoy the outdoors. Smoke is gross. Not to mention the trash generated from cigarette butts and the fire risk from careless smokers. Smokeless tobacco is also gross and no one wants to be in a place where users of chew or dip have spit all over everything. Yuck.
- Smoking kills.
- Smoking leads to littering, smoking is not okay around children, there is no reason to need to smoke at a park.
- Smoking of any substance should never be allowed within the park system.
- Smoking or using smokeless tobacco, e-cigarettes/ vaping not only harms the user but others around them and the world they live in. Truly, it is not necessary to commit to such an act since it is not needed to live. Smoking should be abolished in general.
- Smoking outside should be OK
- Smoking should always be allowed in outside areas, away from entry doors.
- Smoking should never be allowed within 100 feet of entrances or common areas such as pavilions, gazebos, point of interests.
- Smoking should not be allowed in semi-closed in areas - like park pavilions with tables and benches where people might be eating.
- Smoking should not be allowed within 100 feet of designated children's areas (like playgrounds) nor near children specific events.
- Smoking should not be encouraged but smokers will smoke. Providing safe receptacles to prevent litter and fire hazard will produce the best results.
- Smoking should only be permitted inside private property and or designated areas where smoking is permitted.
- Smoking Stinks
- Smoking, tobacco use and vaping should not be allowed in public places.
- Smoking, vaping only add toxic fumes to the atmosphere which cause breathing problems to those who are sensitive.
- Smoking, Vaping, or smokeless tobacco should be allowed in rented pavilions by the participants of the event held in those facilities
- So now you don't want people to smoke outdoors? Going a bit far eh?
- Stop trying to make Nevada into California. Its outdoors for crying out loud!



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- Stop turning us into California. I was raised when pot was taboo but you could smoke in an airport. Now it's reversing. It's crazy and btw - a ban isn't going to work - your just gonna piss people off and they will do it more - on purpose.
- Thank you for bringing this subject to public opinion. When I am out waling in a park or open space, the LAST thing I want to smell is someones tobacco in the air, or see their cigarette butts, spit bottles or wads of chewing tobacco anywhere on the ground. I feel my right to clean air and clean spaces is infringed upon by hapless tobacco users.
- Thank you!
- Thanks for considering this policy. It is the right time to make it happen.
- Thanks for thinking about this topic!
- The act of smoking cigarettes opens our parks to unnecessary fire danger and causes excess debris (cigarette butts) which is ugly to look at and potentially harmful to wildlife.
- The answers for smoking/smokeless were a little restrictive. I don't believe that people should be restricted from use, but that they should be responsible in disposal of tobacco products (chew, cigarette butts, etc). It is not uncommon for spitting on public property to be restricted and littering should never be okay. Vaping seems harmless regardless of where or when it is used.
- The differing answers on vaping and regular or smokeless tobacco, is due to the fact that vaping causes large clouds of smoke unlike regular tobacco products.
- The idea of the outdoors is to enjoy fresh air, air as nature intended. The whole purpose is lost when people use the parks for smoking (whatever they smoke), sleeping or for their own living quarters.
- The issue of cigarette butt litter is definitely a pet peeve of mine.
- The main problem with cigarettes and smokers is that they consider the outdoors (which everyone enjoys) to be their personal ashtray. If they would dispose of their butts properly who's to say they shouldn't be allowed to smoke.
- The only problem I see is if smokers throw their cigarette butts on the ground.
- the parks are a large space and for everyone to enjoy. I have to believe that there can be certain areas (smoking zones) where those who smoke can sit and enjoy the park. there should also be areas in the parks where smoking is prohibited so that others can enjoy the park as well.
- THE PROBLEM IS THE DAMM BUTS & TRASH LEFT BEHIND
- The smell of cigarette smoke ruins the "great outdoors" atmosphere for me, so I'm not sure if e-cigs are okay or not - I don't have much experience with them. As far as smokeless tobacco, as



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long as folks spit in a cup or something and I don't have to look at it, I don't think it would be a problem for me.

- The to the risk second hand smoke poses to individuals with chronic breathing conditions if smoking or vaping is allowed it would prohibit individuals with respiratory risk ilities from being able to utilize parks .
- There are more NON smokers than there are smokers. I think it's time to allow those of us that don't smoke to enjoy an outdoor activity in a public place in an environment that is safe for us and our kids/families.
- Thank you for allowing this to be considered! It's best for the health of ALL Northern Nevadans and I hope to see it passed.
- There is a segment of society who should be able to enjoy the parks. Give them a spot which is safe as far as fire.
- There is no reason to subject innocent children to what we factually know is dangerous second hand smoke. There are plenty of other places in town where smoking is legal, but we should not be putting our children's health in danger just because people have bad habits.
- There is no right to smoke, expect in your home
- There is nothing more distracting and selfish than the use of these products in public spaces. I am allergic to tobacco and the open air and spaces should be free of it
- There is so much evidence showing the correlation between children seeing adults smoke and how they view smoking. It's irresponsible to smoke in a public place where you are subjecting everyone else to harmful 2nd hand smoke and residue.
- We live in Fernley but are in Reno every single day of the week, between sports and play dates.
- There should be designated areas away from where the general public may congregate (playgrounds, swimming areas, picnic areas, campgrounds and areas that may be susceptible to being a fire hazard).
- There should be designated areas for smokers (including people who vape or use e-cigarettes) and for people ho choose to use smokeless tobacco and this area should be away from where children play.
- There should never be smoking around kids even in open spaces like parks. We find cigarette butts in the grass and sometimes in the actual sand or wood chips... I was around parents that smoked, they both past away of lung cancer and I always wonder when I will get that dreaded call from second hand?? Sometimes we need to speak up for kids that can not speak up because of their ages.



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- These activities not only look unsightly for recreation users, and it creates additional clean-up for maintenance workers.
- These are NOT confined spaces. Only picky people who intentionally stand beside a smoker would complain. There would be NO health risk to others!
- These are public places, and the use of these products affects others by polluting the air, littering on the ground and staining the public sidewalks
- These are public spaces, and people should be allowed to smoke if they choose. However, I don't like the smell of it or breathing it in second-hand. Now that I have children, I don't want them to have to breathe it either. Unfortunately, too many smokers don't use garbage cans and simply throw their butts on the ground. Perhaps banning it from public parks would help both of these issues.
- These open spaces are for the benefit of all of us. Smoking and vaping stinks and smokeless tobacco makes a disgusting mess! If you want to do these, do them at home. Also, not part of the survey but, ENFORCE LAWS AGAINST SMOKING MARIJUANA IN PUBLIC AND ESPECIALLY IN PARKS.
- They should not allow smoking in any parks where there is a children's play area. Parks that are mostly open space areas without a playground for children should be allowed for tobacco and or vaping use.
- Think about the future. The children.
- This did not address marijuana. I don't think tobacco is good for people, hence my answers. I believe vaping marijuana would give ppl a sense of oneness w/Mother Nature, but I do not, for any reason, think a live flame should be allowed in any parks, anywhere! IT'S JUST TOO DANGEROUS!!!
- This is an open air space and a smoker contributes just as much to these parks as others. They may even contribute more in tax dollars than others. Let's not turn Nevada into a nanny state.
- This is in an open area. If someone has a issue just move away. This is government over reach and a waste of my taxpayer dollars.
- This is NEVADA not CALIFORNIA.
- This is Nevada not California. Don't be like California
- This is ridiculous! It is outside. There is already way too many rules and regulations. I thought we lived in the land of the free. Pretty soon we won't be able to fart inside our own bathrooms!
- This is ridiculous it's outdoors don't you people have something better to do money that could be spent better



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- This is the prime example of pussification of America. Keep stripping your self of your own rights and sooner or later you will not have any rights.
- This needs to include pot as well in case state law changes
- This smoke whether direct or secondary is harmful to anyone who inhales it.
- This is pure and simple Tyranny. Indoors is one thing, but outdoors is well over the edge. Assuming butts are disposed of properly, and there is no fire danger ( and the law ALREADY covers those things ), no one has a right to impose his or her moral judgements on ANYone else.
- Those allowable times would be extremely limited if I had my way. But I don't want to be so mean to people who are addicted to need a place to use their tobacco products.
- To promote better public health, I'd like to see tobacco and vaping banned from all parks. But I recognize that it may be very unpopular and difficult to enforce in areas such as some parks along the Truckee River.
- Tobacco in public is a public health hazard and hurts our air and water quality. I'd love to see less cigarettes and chewing tobacco in parks and open spaces, and would really like to see measures to curb e-cigs/vaping. E-cig/vape users seem to think it's "harmless" and okay to use anywhere.
- Tobacco is a real pain with second hand effects
- Tobacco products should be banned everywhere. They are deadly. If people are prohibited from using them in public places perhaps they'll see the light and give them up.
- Unfortunately almost every open space has become a park of some kind. Smoking around areas specifically designed for children should be forbidden, but open areas should be allowed. Not much different than car exhaust
- vaping is not bad in some circumstances. smoking is always bad.
- Very concerning when you are trying to exercise and someone is smoking in the park; especially when you are taking a walk.
- Walking through smoke or a vape trail detract from my park going experience.
- We are talking about PUBLIC parks... I am a non smoker.. I move if the smoking is bothering me.. This is NOT CALIFORNIA stop trying to emulate those pinheads
- We cannot continue to give up our liberties, common sense goes a long ways.
- We do not regulate alcohol or marijuana why are we so focused on only cigarettes. We live in America. It isn't illegal. Why are we wanting to put laws into effect that restricts our rights. Where would it stop? No don't start down this path- it would be the beginning of losing our rights
- We don't have to control every little thing people do. It's ridiculous.



# TRUCKEE MEADOWS PARKS FOUNDATION

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- We don't need a nanny state like California.
- We live in a desert, people; the fire risk of smoking is beyond problematic. Also, the data are unassailable; 2nd hand smoke is harmful.
- We need to push back HARD on proposed 'California like' rules, laws and policies. I suspect there are many ex-CALI transplants in northern Nevada, who have worked their way into 'volunteer commissions' to inject their wacko left coast politics and attitudes into Nevada. I don't care what California does. If those who relocated here from there, my feelings would not be hurt if they moved back to where they came from.
- Smoking, chewing and vaping in open spaces is not the health risk the proponents claim. Our air quality in the valley is definitely negatively impacted by wild fires, wood burning fireplaces and traffic but NOT cigarette smokers!
- We pay extra taxes everyone we purchase and have more restrictions than even marijuana users!
- We should allow smokers to have some freedom and when outside I believe that is an appropriate time to allow people to enjoy smoking. Care should be taken by smokers to not impose on non-smokers but we should not impose our values on them either.
- We're Nevada, not California
- What are you all nuts this is Nevada leave those ideas at the California border really find something better to do
- What next? Will it come to the point that we can't smoke in our own yards?
- When I'm enjoying a park and open space I want to enjoy the fresh air, not smoke or vapor.
- When in public, I try to move away from people. If you walk into my area, then it's on you. Smokers pay taxes also, but trying to control the outdoors is going far.
- When people rent a shelter, I think the smoking option should be up to them. I would like to see areas that allow smoking so there would be disposal containers in that area. It would be so nice not to have random butts and chew in the grass and play areas.
- When visiting parks, I want to enjoy the nature of it. Smoking in parks not only defeats the purpose but there are many people with allergies, as myself, that can have adverse reactions affecting our health, especially those with asthma (and pollutes the air).
- When we start imposing these type of bans, the cities and county are wasting resources. Why not enforce the laws of littering in parks first. Imposing bans is doing nothing but creating criminals for something that's legal. Try again and enforce what laws that's already in place.
- When you are outside, this should not be an issue. Could make a designated area, but that limits enjoyment of the Park.



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- Whenever I do smoke (Not only in parks) I make sure there is enough space between other people and myself.
- While I am not a smoker, I believe that smoking in outdoor public areas should be allowed. There's such a thing as too much regulation, and I believe this is an example.
- While I believe these activities should always be allowed, I also think the fines for littering of cigarette butts and the spitting resulting from smokeless tobacco onto the ground should be drastically increased and enforced. There should also be some sort of enforcement preventing all of these activities when children are present. Maybe they need to be at least 50-100 feet from any playground and areas where children will be playing.
- While I do not smoke I can't see how smoking out of doors can bother anyone.
- While I don't like smoking anytime or anywhere, regulating outdoor, public areas seems pretty invasive. Perhaps not allowing smoking in gazebo type areas should be outlawed as smoke tends to adhere to structures.
- While smokeless tobacco doesn't affect nonsmokers, where will they spit?
- Why are we allowing people to tell us how to live. Quite trying to legislate morality. I don't want to live in California!
- Why not just make the playground a no-smoking section? If someone wants to go for a walk in the park while enjoying a smoke, who is it hurting? Stop trying to place arbitrary limits on people just because you can.
- why they gotta atomize carcinogens?
- Why would you spend your time adding another unenforceable rule? I work directly across the street from Picket Park. It has been occupied by homeless people for over 18 months. They sleep there, they use public restrooms and make them a health hazard, they smoke, use drugs and leave used needles on the benches and in the grass. They even killed and cooked a Canadian goose last week right there in the park. We see Reno police there frequently but don't see them enforcing any of the current rules.
- Will there be added resources in order to ticket these offences, should they be banned? Who will be responsible for financing and policing? All parks and open spaces should be kept clean and made safe for all generations to enjoy. I see people throw lit cigarettes out car windows constantly and sure they are to blame for fires as well as litter. Banning could halt loitering and raise funds to upkeep these areas.
- Will you PLEASE stop trying to turn us into California. Our laws and regulations are already mimicking them to a ridiculous extent. They ruined their state, moved here, and are busy ruining ours



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*AWARENESS • APPRECIATION • STEWARDSHIP*

- With all the bans on smoking now why not ban cigarettes etc. in Washoe County? Oh wait, it would lower the tax revenue. I don't smoke but if I'm in a park I move to another area of the park.
- Would love to see Reno become a SMOKE FREE Environment. I just returned from Costa Rica where smoking in public is not allowed anywhere. Parks, national park areas, and city areas were SO clean and never smelled disgusting cigarette smoke! Would love to see Reno the same!
- Yay so glad to see this come through
- You are talking about open air parks. I think it should be legal to smoke in the open. This is the desert, not San Francisco.
- You see the bumper stickers and I've been told: "This is not California".....These Liberals changing the way we think and live is sickening. Next, only those with pink twinkie hats will be allowed to use the freaking Parks. I've been to Parks here in Nevada where NO ONE ELSE WAS AROUND FOR MILES...GIVE ME A BREAK. " MY TAXES HELP FUND THOSE PARKS AS WELL AS MY CONTRIBUTIONS. STOP CHANGING THE LAWS OF THE LAND TO PLEASE SOME NEW-BEE TO THE ARENA OF POLITICS AND WHO WISHES TO MAKE A NAME FOR THEMSELVES. STOP ALREADY!! TRY TO ENFORCE THE LAWS THAT ALREADY EXIST. HAVE YOU SEEN THE WAY PEOPLE ARE DRIVING LATELY? HMMMMM....HOW DO THEY GET THE PRIVILEGE? GOOD SONG: "KILLER ON THE ROAD" AND ALSO USE SOME OF THAT WASTED MONEY ON FLASHING SIGNALS AT ALL CROSSWALKS SO OTHERS AREN'T KILLED AND BUILD FENCES ALONG THE HIGHWAYS THAT WILL HELP KEEP THE HORSES OFF THE HIGHWAYS AND ALLOW FOR A "SAFER" DRIVING EXPERIENCE. LET'S FOCUS ON MORE IMPORTANT THINGS THAN THE DAMN SMOKING ISSUE. I MOVED HERE TO GET AWAY FROM THESE POLITICAL NUTJOBS AND THEIR RIDICULOUS AGENDAS.
- You should include the use of marijuana in this survey as well...just as harmful as the tobacco products
- You shouldn't control what someone does that's legal outside.
- You're trying to turn into California. Are you going to remove all outside bbq pits? They contribute to air pollution to a far greater degree! It's a slippery slope you're beginning to take.