



TOWN OF WESTBOROUGH MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF HEALTH

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Regulation of the Westborough Board of Health Restricting the Sale of Tobacco Products and Nicotine Delivery Products

A. Authority

This regulation is promulgated pursuant to the authority granted to the Westborough Board of Health by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 111, Section 31 that "Boards of Health may make reasonable health regulations".

B. Definitions

For the purpose of this regulation, the following words shall have the following meanings:

Blunt Wrap: Any tobacco product manufactured or packaged as a wrap or as a hollow tube made wholly or in part from tobacco that is designed or intended to be filled by the consumer with loose tobacco or other fillers.

Business Agent: An individual who has been designated by the owner or operator of any establishment to be the manager or otherwise in charge of said establishment.

Cigar: Any roll of tobacco that is wrapped in leaf tobacco or in any substance containing tobacco with or without a tip or mouthpiece not otherwise defined as a cigarette under Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 64C, Section 1, Paragraph 1.

E-Cigarette: Any electronic nicotine delivery product composed of a mouthpiece, heating element, battery and/or electronic circuits that provides a vapor of liquid nicotine to the user, or relies on vaporization of solid nicotine or any liquid. This term shall include such devices whether they are manufactured as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes or under any other product name.

Educational Institution: Any public or private college, school, professional school, scientific or technical institution, university or other institution furnishing a program of higher education.

Employee: Any individual who performs services for an employer.

Employer: Any individual, partnership, association, corporation, trust or other organized group of

individuals that uses the services of one (1) or more employees.

Health Care Institution: An individual, partnership, association, corporation or trust or any person or group of persons that provides health care services and employs health care providers licensed, or subject to licensing, by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health under M.G.L. c. 112 or a retail establishment that provides pharmaceutical goods and services and is subject to the provisions of 247 CMR 6.00. Health care institutions include, but are not limited to, hospitals, clinics, health centers, pharmacies, drug stores, doctor offices and dentist offices.

Minor: Any individual who is under the age of eighteen (18).

Nicotine Delivery Product: Any manufactured article or product made wholly or in part of a tobacco substitute or containing nicotine that is expected or intended for human consumption, but not including a product approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for sale as a tobacco use cessation or harm reduction product or for other medical purposes and which is being marketed and sold solely for that approved purpose. Nicotine delivery products include, but are not limited to, e-cigarettes.

Non-Residential Roll-Your-Own (RYO) Machine: A mechanical device made available for use (including to an individual who produces cigars, cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, pipe tobacco, or roll-your-own tobacco solely for the individual's own personal consumption or use) that is capable of making cigarettes, cigars or other tobacco products. RYO machines located in private homes used for solely personal consumption are not Non-Residential RYO machines.

Permit Holder: Any person engaged in the sale or distribution of tobacco or nicotine delivery products directly to consumers who applies for and receives a tobacco and nicotine delivery product sales permit or any person who is required to apply for a Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Product Sales Permit pursuant to these regulations, or his or her business agent.

Retail Tobacco Store: An establishment that is not required to possess a retail food permit whose primary purpose is to sell or offer for sale to consumers, but not for resale, tobacco products and tobacco paraphernalia, in which the sale of other products is merely incidental, and in which the entry of persons under the age of 18 is prohibited at all times, and maintains a valid permit for the retail sale of tobacco products as required to be issued by the Westborough Board of Health.

Self-Service Display: Any display from which customers may select a tobacco product or a nicotine delivery product without assistance from an employee or store personnel.

Tobacco Product: Cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, pipe tobacco, bidis, snuff or tobacco in any of its forms.

Tobacco Product: Cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, pipe tobacco, bidis, snuff or tobacco in any of its forms.

Vending Machine: Any automated or mechanical self-service device, which upon insertion of money, tokens or any other form of payment, dispenses or makes cigarettes, any other tobacco product or nicotine delivery product.

C. Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Product Sales to Minors Prohibited

1. No person shall sell tobacco or nicotine delivery products or permit tobacco or nicotine delivery

products to be sold to a minor; or not being the minor's parent or legal guardian, give tobacco or nicotine delivery products to a minor.

2. Required Signage

- a. In conformance with and in addition to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 270, Section 7, a copy of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 270, Section 6, shall be posted conspicuously by the owner or other person in charge thereof in the shop or other place used to sell tobacco products at retail. The notice shall be provided by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and made available from the Westborough Board of Health. The notice shall be at least 48 square inches and shall be posted conspicuously by the permit holder in the retail establishment or other place in such a manner so that it may be readily seen by a person standing at or approaching the cash register. The notice shall directly face the purchaser and shall not be obstructed from view or placed at a height of less than 4 feet or greater than 9 feet from the floor. The owner or other person in charge of a shop or other place used to sell tobacco products at retail shall conspicuously post any additional signs required by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.
- b. The owner or other person in charge of a shop or other place used to sell tobacco products at retail shall conspicuously post signage provided by the Westborough Board of Health that discloses current referral information about smoking cessation.
- c. The owner or other person in charge of a shop or other place used to sell nicotine delivery products at retail shall conspicuously post a sign stating "The sale of nicotine delivery products to minors under 18 years of age is prohibited." The owner or other person in charge of a shop or other place used to sell e-cigarettes at retail shall conspicuously post a sign stating, "The use of e-cigarettes at indoor establishments may be prohibited by local law." The notices shall be no smaller than 8.5" by 11" and shall be posted conspicuously in the retail establishment or other place in such a manner so that they may be readily seen by a person standing at, or approaching the cash register. These notices shall directly face the purchaser and shall not be obstructed from view or placed at a height of less than 4 or greater than 9 feet from the floor.

3. Each person selling or distributing tobacco or nicotine delivery products shall verify the age of the purchaser by means of a valid government-issued photographic identification containing the bearer's date of birth that the purchaser is 18 years old or older. Verification is required for any person under the age of 27.

4. All retail sales of tobacco or nicotine delivery products must be face-to-face between the seller and the buyer and occur at the permitted location.

D. Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Product Sales Permit

1. No person shall sell or otherwise distribute tobacco or nicotine delivery products at retail establishments within the town of Westborough without first obtaining a Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Product Sales Permit issued annually by the Westborough Board of Health. Only owners of establishments with a permanent, non-mobile location in Westborough are eligible to apply for a

permit and sell tobacco products or nicotine delivery products at the specified location in Westborough.

2. Each applicant who sells tobacco is required to provide proof of a current tobacco sales license issued by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue before a Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Product Sales Permit can be issued.
3. The fee for a Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Product Sales Permit shall be determined by the Westborough Board of Health.
4. A separate permit is required for each retail establishment selling tobacco and/or nicotine delivery products.
5. Each Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Product Sales Permit shall be displayed at the retail establishment in a conspicuous place.
6. A Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Product Sales Permit is non-transferable. A new owner of an establishment that sells tobacco or nicotine delivery products must apply for a new permit. No new permit will be issued unless and until all outstanding penalties incurred by the previous permit holder are satisfied in full.
7. Issuance of a Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Product Sales Permit shall be conditioned on an applicant's consent to unannounced, periodic inspections of his/her retail establishment to ensure compliance with this regulation.
8. A Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Product Sales Permit will not be renewed if the permit holder has failed to pay all fines issued and the time period to appeal the fines has expired and/or has not satisfied any outstanding permit suspensions.

E. Prohibition of the Sale of Blunt Wraps

No person or entity shall sell or distribute blunt wraps in Westborough.

F. Free Distribution and Coupon Redemption

No person shall distribute, or cause to be distributed, any free samples of tobacco products or nicotine delivery products. No means, instruments or devices that allow for the redemption of all tobacco products or nicotine delivery products for free or cigarettes at a price below the minimum retail price determined by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue shall be accepted by any permit holder.

G. Out-of-Package Sales

The sale or distribution of tobacco products in any form other than an original factory-wrapped package is prohibited. No person may sell or cause to be sold or distribute or cause to be distributed any cigarette package that contains fewer than twenty (20) cigarettes, including single cigarettes.

H. Self-Service Displays

All self-service displays of tobacco products and/or nicotine delivery products are prohibited. All humidors including, but not limited to, walk-in humidors must be locked

I. Vending Machines

All tobacco and/or nicotine delivery product vending machines are prohibited.

J. Non-Residential Roll-Your-Own Machines

All Non-Residential Roll-Your-Own machines are prohibited.

K. Prohibition of the Sale of Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Products by Health Care Institutions

No health care institution located in Westborough shall sell or cause to be sold tobacco or nicotine delivery products. No retail establishment that operates or has a health care institution within it, such as a pharmacy or drug store, shall sell or cause to be sold tobacco products or nicotine delivery products.

L. Prohibition of the Sale of Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Products by Educational Institutions

No educational institution located in Westborough shall sell or cause to be sold tobacco or nicotine delivery products. This includes all educational institutions as well as any retail establishments that operate on the property of an educational institution.

M. Violations

1. It shall be the responsibility of the establishment, permit holder and/or his or her business agent to ensure compliance with all sections of this regulation pertaining to his or her distribution of tobacco and/or nicotine delivery products. The violator shall receive:

- a. In the case of a first violation, a fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.00).
- b. In the case of a second violation within 18 months of the date of the current violation, a fine of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) and the Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Product Sales Permit shall be suspended for seven (7) consecutive business days.
- c. In the case of three or more violations within an 18 month period, a fine of three hundred dollars (\$300.00) and the Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Product Sales Permit *may* be revoked permanently or for a duration set by the Board.

2. Refusal to cooperate with inspections pursuant to this regulation may result in the suspension of the Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Product Sales Permit for thirty (30) consecutive business days.

3. In addition to the monetary fines set above, any permit holder who engages in the sale or distribution of tobacco or nicotine delivery products directly to a consumer while his or her permit is

suspended shall be subject to the suspension of all Board of Health issued permits for thirty (30) consecutive business days.

4. The Westborough Board of Health shall provide notice of the intent to suspend a Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Product Sales Permit, which notice shall contain the reasons therefor and establish a time and date for a hearing which date shall be no earlier than seven (7) days after the date of said notice. The permit holder or its business agent shall have an opportunity to be heard at such hearing and shall be notified of the Board of Health's decision and the reasons therefore in writing. After a hearing, the Westborough Board of Health may suspend the Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Product Sales Permit if the Board of Health finds that a violation of this regulation occurred. For purposes of such suspensions, the Board shall make the determination notwithstanding any separate criminal or non-criminal proceedings brought in court hereunder or under the Massachusetts General Laws for the same offense.

All tobacco products and nicotine delivery products shall be removed from the retail establishment upon suspension of the Tobacco and Nicotine Delivery Product Sales Permit. Failure to remove all tobacco and nicotine delivery products shall constitute a separate violation and be punishable by a fine of one hundred (\$100.00) per business day.

N. Non-Criminal Disposition

Whoever violates any provision of this regulation may be penalized by the non-criminal method of disposition as provided in Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 21D or by filing a criminal complaint at the appropriate venue.

Each day any violation exists shall be deemed to be a separate offense.

O. Enforcement

Enforcement of this regulation shall be by the Westborough Board of Health or its designated agent(s).

Any resident who desires to register a complaint pursuant to the regulation may do so by contacting the Westborough Board of Health or its designated agent(s) and the Board shall investigate.

P. Variances

The Board of Health may vary any provision of these regulations with respect to any particular case, when in its opinion, (1) the enforcement thereof would do manifest injustice, and (2) the applicant has proved that the same degree of protection can be achieved without strict application of the particular provision. In cases of a conflict with M.G.L. Ch. 270, §22 (the "Smoke-free Workplace Law), the state law will prevail.

Q. Severability

If any provision of these regulations is declared invalid or unenforceable, the other provisions shall not be affected thereby but shall continue in full force and effect.

R. Effective Date

This regulation shall take effect on October 1, 2014.

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