

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 5 - 11

DIRECTING THE COMMISSIONER OF PARKS AND RECREATION TO MAKE ALL CITY-OWNED RECREATION CENTERS AND PLAYGROUNDS SMOKE-FREE

WHEREAS, smoking is a critical public health issue in Philadelphia;

WHEREAS, according to city-specific surveillance data, Philadelphia has the highest smoking rate of the 10 largest U.S. cities, accounting for nearly 300,000 smokers City-wide;

WHEREAS, the U.S. Surgeon General has concluded that there is no risk-free level of exposure to secondhand smoke; and that when individuals inhale cigarette smoke, either directly or secondhand, they are inhaling more than 7,000 chemicals: hundreds of these are hazardous and at least 69 are known to cause cancer;

WHEREAS, the smoking epidemic afflicts every Philadelphia community, leading to disability, productivity loss, and premature death;

WHEREAS, outdoor secondhand smoke is often an irritant to non-smokers and can be both an acute and chronic health hazard to some individuals;

WHEREAS, children are more likely to smoke if they see adults smoke and believe that this habit is typical and widely accepted;

WHEREAS, it is a common habit of smokers to discard cigarette butts and packages on City property where smoking is permitted; and

WHEREAS, it is important to mitigate the negative environmental impacts of cigarette butts, including pollution and fire risk.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael A. Nutter, by the powers vested in me by the Philadelphia Home Rule Charter, hereby **ORDER** as follows:

Section 1. The Commissioner of Parks and Recreation shall take all necessary action to make all City-owned recreation centers and playgrounds smoke-free.

Section 2. The Department of Parks and Recreation shall post signs in appropriate locations to provide public notice that smoking is prohibited at City-owned recreation centers and playgrounds.

Section 3. This **ORDER** shall take effect immediately.

5/23/11
DATE


MICHAEL A. NUTTER, MAYOR
CITY OF PHILADELPHIA