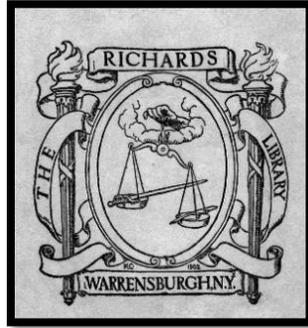


# The Richards Library Policies



## Non-Smoking

### 1. Purpose:

Community attitudes and behavior reflect a growing awareness of the impact of tobacco use on young people. More than 75% of Saratoga, Warren and Washington County residents maintain smoke-free homes and vehicles (Siena Research Institute, 2016. Tri-County Community survey). The majority (70%) also support making public spaces tobacco-free, especially family-friendly organizations (Siena Research, 2016. Tri-County survey). Libraries can be a major community hub attracting people of all ages, incomes and educational levels. Smoke-free properties look better, smell better, and are better for everyone's health. Given the growing concerns surrounding the adverse health effects of exposure to tobacco smoke, The Richards Library is implementing a tobacco-free policy.

### 2. Persons Affected

All individuals; visitors, community groups, and employees are expected to respect and follow the tobacco-free policy.

### 3. Policy

The entire property of The Richards Library is tobacco-free. According to the Surgeon General, there is no safe level of exposure to second-hand smoke (Surgeon General Carmona, June 2006). Therefore, in an effort to promote smoke-free environments and send a positive message to young people that a healthy, active and enriching life does not include tobacco use, The Richards Library property, including all buildings, outside grounds and parking areas are designated tobacco-free areas. This will respect the rights of all people not to be exposed to second-hand smoke. Additional copies for staff or visitors are available upon request. To support the policy of a tobacco-free environment, we have posted tobacco-free signs in designated areas. Please observe the policy at all times.

### 4. Definitions

Tobacco use-the use or presence of any tobacco product, i.e., a lighted cigar, cigarette, pipe, smokeless tobacco, etc. on any library property. This includes the use of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems, i.e., e-cigarettes, vape pens, hookah pens, water pipes, etc. as these products are not regulated and composition of the product is not known.

## **5. Responsibilities**

Employees and patrons/visitors are required to adhere to the policy.

**Approved by The Richards Library Board of Trustees, 6 June 2017.  
Reformatted, Revised, Reviewed and Approved: April 19, 2018**