

# **GREENFIELD FIRE DISTRICT DISTRICT POLICY #37**

**Origination Date: March 22, 2017**

Revision #:

Effective Date:

## **Smoking and Other Tobacco Products Policy**

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to comply with the regulations as promulgated by the State of New York Public Health Law Article 13-E, Regulation of Smoking in Public and Work Places and to promote a healthy and safe environment for all Fire District employees, Board of Fire Commissioners, firefighters, auxiliary members, contractors and the general public.

### **POLICY/PROCEDURE**

1. In compliance with Public Health Law 13E, since smoking restrictions are applicable to places of employment and since the NYS Department of Labor considers volunteer firefighters to be employees of the Fire District. It is the intent of the Board of Fire Commissioners to prohibit smoking in all locations within buildings owned, leased or controlled by the Fire District. This includes Fire District employees, Board of Fire Commissioners, firefighters, auxiliary members, contractors and the general public. Smoking outside of facilities will be in a designated area established by each company and agreed upon by the Board of Fire Commissioners.
2. It will be further prohibited to smoke, vape\* or use tobacco chew products or allow anyone to smoke, vape\* or use tobacco chew products in a Fire District owned, leased or controlled vehicle.
3. Smoking, vaping\* or use of tobacco chew products at the scene of an incident attended by members and auxiliary members of the Fire District shall be prohibited when there is imminent or perceived danger present. This also applies to mutual aid assistance received by the Fire District. Smoking, vaping\* or use of tobacco chew products will be permitted away from the scene of the incident at the discretion of the Incident Commander and/or a Safety Officer. Smoking, vaping\* or use of tobacco chew products during prolonged operations by the pump operator at a non-enclosed pump panel and a ladder truck operator during turntable operations also at the discretion of the Incident Commander and/or a Safety Officer. Tobacco butts, vaping\* containers and tobacco chew products will be disposed of properly. Tobacco chew products will use a "spit cup" to be disposed of properly before exiting a scene or facility.
4. Smoking, or vaping\* in District leased, owned or controlled facilities is prohibited at any and all times. Smoking and vaping\* will be allowed outside of the facility at a designated location away from doors and open windows. This location will be designated by the Company Chief Officers and the Company President. If a conflict arises it will be discussed and resolved by the Fire District Board. The use of tobacco chewing products will be allowed provided the user has a spit cup and upon leaving the facility properly disposes of said spit cup in the trash receptacle. Abuse of the spit cup use and disposal may result in future use privileges being withdrawn by the Chief

Officers or Company President. The District Office building will a no smoking, vaping\* or use of tobacco chew products anywhere in the building at any time. Smoking and vaping\* will be permitted in the parking area at the rear of Station #1. All Fire District buildings will posted at all entrances with No Smoking signs.

5. The enforcement of this policy shall be the responsibility of the Board of Fire Commissioners, the District Chief, the Deputy and Assistant Chiefs involving facilities, vehicles and incidents. Failing to take action by any Chief Officer may also subject them to discipline.
6. Violations may result in disciplinary action by the Board of Fire Commissioners. Violators who refuse to comply with this policy may be asked to leave the facility, property or both. All violators may also be subject to potential civil penalties as set by the NYS Department of Health.

**\*Vape/Vaping: the act of inhaling and exhaling the vapor produced by an electronic cigarette or similar device.**