

## Central Vermont New Directions Coalition

### Education for Cities and Towns on Substance Abuse Prevention

The Central Vermont New Directions Coalition, working with the Vermont Department of Health, is a resource for you when you are considering actions and recommendations that will make our communities healthier. Here are some areas you might consider. Please contact us for further assistance.

#### Alcohol

**Locations:**

Town Buildings: Town Hall, Town Clerk's Office, Fire Department, Town Garage, Schools

Town Properties: Recreation Fields, Parks, Trails, Town Greens, Sidewalks, Cemeteries, Beaches, Town Vehicles

Local stores and restaurants

**Rationale:** Responsible policies help mitigate the harmful consequences of alcohol use. They help reduce access by minors, ensure that adults drink responsibly, and reduce liability, including injury, sexual assault, public disturbances, and vandalism.

**Strategies:**

Regulation of store and restaurant licenses to reduce density

Regulation of liquor outlets to reduce proximity to community facilities such as schools, day cares, parks

Regulation of alcohol advertising

Regulation of alcohol product placement

Regulation of hours of operation of alcohol sales and service at stores and restaurants

Prohibition or restriction of alcohol consumption in town buildings

Prohibition or restriction of alcohol consumption on town (public) properties

Prohibition or regulation of alcohol possession at community events

Policy on acceptable practice for alcohol service when permitted in public space or at events, including trained servers and other safeguards

Procedures for handling intoxicated individuals.

**Current Relevant State Policy:**

It is illegal for anyone under 21 to drink or purchase alcohol in Vermont.

It is illegal to sell alcohol to anyone under 21.

It is illegal to purchase or furnish alcohol for minors, even on your own property.

It is illegal to have a Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) of .08 and operate a motor vehicle or boat (.02 for minors, .04 for commercial drivers).

**Other helpful resources:**

The Department of Liquor Control offers training in responsible beverage sales and service.

The Department of Liquor Control does compliance checks for alcohol at stores and restaurants.

Law enforcement does saturation patrols and party patrols.

**Central Vermont New Directions Coalition**

**73 Main Street #33**

**Montpelier, VT 05602**

**802-223-4949 email - [agilbert@cvndc.org](mailto:agilbert@cvndc.org)**

**[www.cvndc.org](http://www.cvndc.org)**



## Tobacco

### Locations:

Town Buildings: Town Hall, Town Clerk's Office, Fire Department, Town Garage, Schools

Town Properties: Recreation Fields, Parks, Trails, Town Greens, Sidewalks, Cemeteries, Beaches, Town Vehicles

Local stores

**Rationale:** Creating tobacco free spaces, including tobacco substitutes such as e-cigarettes, is the most effective way to reduce second hand smoke exposure. Designated smoking areas do not eliminate exposure and are difficult to enforce. Secondhand smoke policies protect everyone's health from secondhand smoke, help smokers to quit, and change social norms around tobacco use.

### Evidence-Based Strategies:

Tobacco-free campuses for town buildings and properties, including e-cigarettes

Regulation of tobacco outlets to reduce proximity to community facilities such as schools, day cares, parks

Tobacco-free town vehicles, including e-cigarettes

Zoning regulations or ordinances to cap the number or location of tobacco licenses

Reducing tobacco advertising, for example through content-neutral advertising regulations

Reducing youth exposure to tobacco product, for example through placing product behind counters and away from popular youth products such as candy

### Current Relevant State Policy:

It is illegal for anyone under 18 to purchase or use tobacco products or tobacco substitutes (e.g. vaping products).

It is illegal to sell tobacco products or tobacco substitutes (e.g. vaping products) to anyone who is under 18 in Vermont.

Tobacco is banned in all workplaces and public buildings in the state of Vermont, including restaurants, bars, public transportation, stores, state buildings, and rooms rented to guests in hotels, motels, and other lodging establishments.

It is illegal to smoke within 25 feet of state buildings.

It is illegal to smoke on the campus of state-owned and operated hospitals or secure recovery facilities.

Use of tobacco or tobacco substitutes such as e-cigarettes is prohibited on all public school grounds and at school sponsored functions.

Use of tobacco or tobacco substitutes such as e-cigarettes is prohibited on the grounds of any day care or pre-school.

It is illegal to smoke in an automobile when a child in a car set or booster seat is present..

Liquid or gel substances containing nicotine must be in child-resistant packaging.

### Other helpful resources:

The Department of Liquor Control offers training in responsible tobacco sales.

The Department of Liquor Control does tobacco compliance checks at stores and restaurants.

802 QUITs offers many options to help people quit smoking.

## Marijuana – including paraphernalia and advertising

### Locations:

Town Buildings: Town Hall, Town Clerk's Office, Fire Department, Town Garage, Schools

Town Properties: Recreation Fields, Parks, Trails, Town Greens, Sidewalks, Cemeteries, Beaches, Town Vehicles

**Rationale:** State and national policies are in a state of flux. Towns and cities may want to get ahead of the curve. Regulation may be by zoning, ordinance, or town vote.

### Strategies:

Regulation about the location of medical marijuana dispensaries, retail facilities, lounges, grow spaces and advertising.

Regulation about allowing medical marijuana dispensaries, retail facilities, lounges and grow spaces in the town.

Regulation of marijuana use in public spaces.