



TOWNSHIP OF HILLSBOROUGH

379 South Branch Road
Hillsborough, NJ 08844
Phone (908) 369-4313
Fax (908) 369-6034

News Release

Contact: Mayor Doug Tomson
Phone: (908) 369-3535

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 26, 2014

Hillsborough Township's Nineteen Parks Recognized As Being 100% Smoke Free

Hillsborough Township's nineteen parks were recently recognized by Healthier Somerset** as "100% Smoke Free". The signage was donated by The Regional Cancer Coalition of Somerset. The Coalition's mission is the prevention of chronic illness with smoke prevention as a top goal because it is a major, preventable cause of heart disease, cancer and other chronic health issues.

"Providing for smoke-free parks and recreational areas in the Township and joining Somerset County in that initiative further promotes living a healthy lifestyle while also having a positive impact on the environment," stated Mayor Doug Tomson.

This healthy collaborative effort is also attributed by the Township Committee, the Board of Health and Hillsborough Municipal Alliance along with ongoing community initiatives such as Healthier Somerset.

"The Hillsborough Township Committee embraced the idea of smoke free parks and recreational areas in Hillsborough when we approached them on the benefits to their community that includes improving public health and a safer environment," stated Lucille Y-Talbot, Director for the Regional Chronic Disease Coalition of Somerset and Morris Counties, funded by the N.J. Office of Cancer Control and Prevention.

"This is all about collaboration and working together with our partners and community members, including support from our member organizations including Healthier Somerset and the Municipal Alliance to share resources for the benefit of the community," added Ms. Talbot.

“Healthier Somerset is pleased that Hillsborough Township has adopted smoke-free parks, an initiative started by the Regional Chronic Disease Coalition, a member of Healthier Somerset. Smoke-free parks promote healthy lifestyles and will ultimately assist in making Hillsborough and Somerset County a healthier place to live and work,” commented Serena Collado, Director of Community Health, RWJUH Somerset.

Healthier Somerset** is a coalition to improve the health and wellbeing of everyone who lives and works in Somerset County. The health of Somerset County residents has a direct bearing upon our physical, emotional and economic wellbeing. As a community, we embrace an agenda that identifies our greatest health needs and set forth an action plan to address these needs.

###