

Reference: NEA-VCSD-CIRCULAR-INFO-00014

28 Nov 2018



Dear Building Management,

Implementation of Orchard Road Precinct No Smoking Zone

Thank you for your participation in the journey towards making the Orchard Road Precinct a No Smoking Zone (NSZ). Since our last update, more Designated Smoking Areas (DSAs) have been set up by various premises owners to cater to shoppers, tenants, and workers who are smokers. It is with your great support that the ground preparatory work is almost complete, to allow us to transit to a NSZ.

2 From 1 January 2019, public areas within the Orchard Road precinct will be designated as a NSZ, where smoking will only be allowed at DSAs. Visitors to Orchard Road can look forward to a healthier and more pleasant shopping environment.

Outreach on No Smoking Zone

3 NEA will be ramping up publicity on the NSZ and locations of the DSAs in the next few weeks. NSZ messages will be displayed via various channels and platforms within the Orchard Road Precinct and information on DSAs made available on Onemap and the myENV app. Our NEA Community Volunteers have also started their outreach activities in the Orchard Road Precinct to raise awareness of the upcoming NSZ. To keep foreign visitors informed about the new smoking prohibition, NEA is working with the Singapore Tourism Board and stakeholders to inform inbound travellers of the NSZ in Orchard Road Precinct.

4 For a smooth implementation of the NSZ, we would like to seek your assistance on the following:

- a. Display of NSZ publicity materials and request frontline staff to don NSZ badges provided by NEA;
- b. Ensure sufficient 'No Smoking By Law' signage are displayed in conspicuous locations to remind smokers that smoking is prohibited and ensure smoking prohibition is observed within their premises;
- c. To remove bins with ashtrays and replace with bins without ashtrays;
- d. Display of signage at entrance/side entrance to direct smokers to the nearest DSA(s);
and

- e. Monitor the situation and ensure that the DSA (if any) does not cause any disamenities

5 In December, NEA will be contacting premises owners for the collection of NSZ publicity materials. For premises owners who wish to find out more about the NSZ or guidelines on setting up of a DSA, kindly refer to the NEA website by scanning the respective QR codes below with any smart device.

Smoking enforcement

6 To facilitate the smooth implementation of the NSZ, NEA will take an advisory approach in the first three months of the roll-out of the Orchard Road No Smoking Zone. However, smokers caught smoking in *existing* smoking-prohibited areas, such as covered linkways and bus-stops will continue to face enforcement actions. Those caught smoking in other public areas within the No Smoking Zone will receive verbal warnings. However, smokers who repeatedly flout the law in spite of prior warnings may also be issued a fine up to \$1,000. From 1 April 2019, enforcement action will be taken against all offenders who smoke in public areas within the No Smoking Zone, other than at DSAs.

Community Volunteer Programme

7 To complement efforts in engaging shoppers, tenants and workers on the NSZ, we wish to invite representatives from your organisation to join the NEA's Community Volunteer Programme. Please refer to [Annex A](#) for more information.

8 We look forward to your continuous support in the implementation of the Orchard Road Precinct NSZ. Should you need any clarification on this matter, please contact Ms Amanda Ng at ng_ai_poh@nea.gov.sg, DID 67319427 or Ms Denise Lee at denise_lee@nea.gov.sg, DID 67319254. Thank you.

Yours Sincerely,

Derek Ho
Director-General Public Health
National Environment Agency

cc: Singapore Tourism Board
Orchard Road Business Association



Orchard Road
Precinct NSZ

<https://www.nea.gov.sg/ORN/SZ>



DSA guidelines

<https://www.nea.gov.sg/our-services/smoking-prohibition/guidelines-on-dsas-signage-and-publicity-materials>

NB: This is a computer-generated letter. No signature is required.

Annex A

Community Volunteer (CV) Programme

Background

The CV programme is administered by the National Environment Agency (NEA) with the objective of encouraging greater community ownership and leverage community pressure for greater deterrence against environmental offenders. As a CV, you will be expected to conduct patrols and engage environmental offenders that are encountered on such patrols to do the right thing such as binning their trash properly into a bin or to smoke responsibly at non-smoking prohibited areas.

Role of Community Volunteer

The main role of a CV is to educate and engage environmental offenders. The offences, which CVs can engage an offender on, are:

- Smoking in prohibited areas;
- Littering in public places;
- Pet defecation in public places;
- Spitting in public places;
- Urinating in public places; and
- Leaving the engine of a stationary vehicle running

Should CVs observe any smoky vehicles on the road, they could take down details of the vehicle, date and time of the offence and submit to NEA for follow up action.

All CVs are required to adopt a 'Bright Spot' and participate in at least one activity per month. For premises-based CVs, they could adopt their own premises such as shopping malls and schools. Other than scheduled patrols, CVs could also conduct other activities within their adopted 'Bright Spot' such as educational outreach and litter-picking.

Training

Individuals who are keen to be a CV will require to attend a foundation training which is held on two consecutive Saturday mornings (9.00am-1.00pm) at Environment Building and pass a theory assessment. Upon completion of the foundation training, CVs will be scheduled to attend two sessions of practical training to hone their engagement skills further. Only successful applicants who have passed the foundation and practical training will be issued with an authority

card with a three-year validity. On expiry of the authority card, a refresher training is required, before issuance of a new one.

Criteria

Interested volunteers will have to fulfil the following criteria below in order to participate in the programme:

- Minimum 18 years old and above
- Singapore Citizen or Permanent Resident
- Physically and mentally fit
- No prior criminal record
- No previous offence under NEA's jurisdiction
- Mature, responsible and committed
- Passionate about keeping the environment clean & green

For more information on the Community Volunteer Programme, you could refer to NEA's website by scanning the QR code below with any smart device.



Community Volunteer
Programme

<https://www.nea.gov.sg/participate/volunteering/community-volunteer-programme>