

For Immediate Release Friday, May 10, 2019

DINOLFO: MONROE COUNTY'S SENECA PARK ZOO WILL BE COMPLETELY SMOKE-FREE

County Executive directs Department of Parks to ban all smoking on Zoo premises

County Executive **Cheryl Dinolfo** today announced that she has directed the Monroe County Department of Parks to make the Seneca Park Zoo a completely smoke-free facility. **Dinolfo's** decision to make the Zoo smoke-free was supported by a unanimous vote of the Monroe County Board of Health.

"Our Seneca Park Zoo is a Monroe County family favorite and we want everyone who visits to have a fun and safe experience while they explore all the Zoo has to offer," said **Dinolfo**. "By going completely smoke-free, we're doing everything we can to best protect the children and families who make the Zoo one of our region's top tourist destinations. I thank the Monroe County Board of Health for offering my plan their unanimous support."

The smoke-free designation will result in the elimination of designated smoking areas within the Zoo and no guests or staff will be permitted to smoke on Zoo grounds. The ban on smoking will include events held outside standard operating hours, when the Zoo is closed to the general public, and apply to functions coordinated by the Seneca Park Zoo Society, as well. The smoking ban shall also prohibit the use of "electronic cigarette" devices.

Prior to finalizing her decision, **Dinolfo** asked the Monroe County Board of Health for its official recommendation. The Board voted unanimously, on Wednesday, May 8, 2019, to recommend that Monroe County make the Zoo a completely smoke-free facility.

The new smoke-free policy is effective Friday, May 24, 2019.

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