

Municipal Tobacco Control Technical Assistance Program

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Local Policy Banning or Limiting Rolling Papers

Adams	Hudson	Peabody
Belchertown	Lee	Rochester
Chelsea	Lennox	Shrewsbury
Concord	Leominster	Somerville
E. Longmeadow	Ludlow	Stockbridge
Easton	Malden	Stoughton
Foxborough	Marion	Swansea
Grafton	Malborough	Townsend
Great Barrington	Mendon	Wellesley
Greenfield	New Bedford	West Bridgewater
Harwich	Northborough	Westfield

TOTAL: 33 (9 City in Bold) – 842,887 residents or 12.1% of state's population lives in listed municipalities.

SUMMARY: MGL Ch. 270 Section 6a limits the sale of rolling papers to those 21 or older. The original state law pre-empted cities and towns from regulating this law further unless you had an existing local measure enacted before November 1995. That preemption was removed in 2018 at the time the age was raised in this state law from 18 to 21. AORTS = adult-only retail tobacco store. Below is language for a local policy:

DEFINITION:

Rolling Papers: sheets, rolls, tubes, cones or leaves, that do not contain tobacco, which are used for rolling cigarettes either by hand or with a roll-your-own machine. When rolling a cigarette, the filler may be tobacco, cannabis or other commonly-smoked herbs.

TO BAN THE SALE OF ALL ROLLING PAPERS:

The sale of Rolling Papers is prohibited in [city/town] except in state-approved marijuana dispensaries or marijuana retailers.

OR

TO BAN THE SALE OF FLAVORED VERSIONS ONLY:

Add this sentence to the existing flavor sales restriction policy:

For this regulation, flavored Rolling Papers, as defined, are "Tobacco Product Flavor Enhancers".

Updated: 2/19/2025