

**From:** Buzby, Maureen <mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org>  
**Sent:** Jan 28, 2025 15:23:47.000000000 UTC  
**Subject:** RE: Nicotine pouch bans? RE: question  
**To:** Karen Shannon <kshannon@needhamma.gov>  
**Cc:** Monica DeWinter <mdewinter@needhamma.gov>

Good question. Let me find out.

I know Northampton does. I was there this weekend and poked my head into a vape shop near the restaurant we were going to. Just wanted to see what new products might be in a college town in the western part of the state.

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**From:** Karen Shannon <kshannon@needhamma.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 28, 2025 10:20 AM  
**To:** Buzby, Maureen <mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org>  
**Cc:** Monica DeWinter <mdewinter@needhamma.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Nicotine pouch bans? RE: question

Hi Maureen,  
Thank you, I appreciate your help in checking with other communities. Interesting that they restricted sale to adult only retail tobacco stores. Our Board of Health tobacco regulation had a similar line in it referencing ADORTS and chose to remove it for now while they evaluate the health harms of pouches. If the ADORTS line goes back into the regulation, it would effectively ban pouches because Needham does not have adult-only retailers.

I appreciate knowing about these three towns. I'm curious if they have ADORTS in their community.

Many thanks!  
Karen

**Karen R. Shannon**  
Needham Public Health Division  
178 Rosemary Street | Needham, MA 02494  
(781) 455-7940 x 215

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**From:** Buzby, Maureen <[mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org](mailto:mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 28, 2025 10:15 AM  
**To:** Karen Shannon <[kshannon@needhamma.gov](mailto:kshannon@needhamma.gov)>  
**Cc:** Monica DeWinter <[mdewinter@needhamma.gov](mailto:mdewinter@needhamma.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: Nicotine pouch bans? RE: question

Good morning,  
Heard back from a few of my colleagues. Looks like Orange, Northampton and Ware all restricted pouches to Adult Only Retail Tobacco Stores (ADORTS).  
No one knew of anyone banning them. So far.  
Hope this helps.

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**From:** Karen Shannon <[kshannon@needhamma.gov](mailto:kshannon@needhamma.gov)>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 27, 2025 9:57 AM  
**To:** Buzby, Maureen <[mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org](mailto:mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org)>  
**Cc:** Monica DeWinter <[mdewinter@needhamma.gov](mailto:mdewinter@needhamma.gov)>  
**Subject:** Nicotine pouch bans? RE: question  
**Importance:** High

Hi Maureen,

I hope all is well with you.

I wanted to check in to see if you had received my email about the banning of nicotine pouches. We are trying to find out if any communities have done that, regardless whether they passed an NFG policy. The Needham BOH is evaluating the health harms of nicotine pouches and will ultimately determine whether to ban them.

My apologies for the redundancy in asking this question, I want to be sure I understand your reply to Monica.

Thanks, as always, for any information you can share.

Best,  
Karen

**Karen R. Shannon**  
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178 Rosemary Street | Needham, MA 02494  
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**From:** Karen Shannon  
**Sent:** Friday, January 17, 2025 11:47 AM  
**To:** Buzby, Maureen <[mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org](mailto:mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org)>  
**Cc:** Monica DeWinter <[mdewinter@needhamma.gov](mailto:mdewinter@needhamma.gov)>  
**Subject:** RE: question

Hi Maureen,

Thank you for your quick reply to Monica yesterday about our question about nicotine pouches. At the risk of being redundant, I wanted to verify my understanding. We are interested to know if any other communities that have approved an NFG policy, or generally, any communities that you know of, are banning the sale of nicotine pouches in their town. Our Board of Health is interested in learning more about the health harms of nicotine pouches, the industry's marketing of this product, specifically its impact on youth use, and whether NPs are considered a cessation tool.

I did see yesterday's article from the FDA. Very discouraging, and simultaneously confusing. I saw another article from 1/15/25 stating the FDA is considering limits on nicotine dosage levels of cigarettes – what is prompting this while they are approving nicotine pouches? And nicotine pouches are sold with as much as 15mg of nicotine.

Thank you, Maureen, as always. We appreciate your clarification on the matter of banning nicotine pouches.

Karen

**Karen R. Shannon**

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**From:** Buzby, Maureen <[mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org](mailto:mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org)>

**Sent:** Thursday, January 16, 2025 3:15 PM

**To:** Monica DeWinter <[mdewinter@needhamma.gov](mailto:mdewinter@needhamma.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: question

No one to date has excluded nicotine pouches. Did you just see the FDA announcement? UGH!

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**From:** Monica DeWinter <[mdewinter@needhamma.gov](mailto:mdewinter@needhamma.gov)>

**Sent:** Thursday, January 16, 2025 2:05 PM

**To:** Buzby, Maureen <[mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org](mailto:mbuzby@cityofmelrose.org)>

**Subject:** question

Hi Maureen,

Happy New Year! I hope you are doing well. I have a question for you about the communities that have adopted the nicotine free generation policy.

Among them, do you know how many - if any - have excluded nicotine pouches from NGF policy? In other words, sale of nicotine pouches are allowable?

Thank you,  
Monica

Monica De Winter, MPH  
(she/her/hers) ([What's this?](#))  
Project Coordinator  
Needham Public Health Division



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