

Coal Tar Policy	Pol. 10.40
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As adopted by the Glenview Park Board of Commissioners on March 23, 2017

Purpose: *To establish a policy regulating the use of coal tar based sealant products to protect public health, address water pollution, and improve the environment.*

Background:

The use of sealers on asphalt pavement is a common practice to extend the useful life and to improve the appearance of our pathways and parking lots. However, scientific studies conducted by the U.S. Geological Survey on the use of sealers that contain coal tar have demonstrated a relationship between storm water runoff and certain health and environmental concerns.

Coal tar sealcoats contain polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), which are a group of organic chemicals and a byproduct formed during the incomplete burning of coal, oil, gas, or other organic substances. In the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services National Toxicology Program’s Report on Carcinogens, PAHs are classified as “Reasonably Anticipated to be a Human Carcinogen”.

The routine wear and tear of parking lots and pathways that have been seal coated with coal tar produces dust and particles contaminated with PAHs that can be breathed and accidentally ingested by people in the parking lot or pathway, and tracked into their homes on shoes, thereby becoming a health threat.

In addition, PAHs from coal tar seal coated pavements have been found to run off into nearby waterways, becoming a pollutant that may contaminate drinking water and endanger aquatic life.

Policy:

1. The Glenview Park District, and any Contractors doing work for the District, will not use pavement sealers that contain coal tar on any Park District properties.
2. All bids and/or other contracts for pavement projects will specify that coal tar pavement sealers may not be used.
3. Asphalt based sealers which do not contain coal tar will be allowed to be applied on Park District properties.