

RESOLUTION NO. 826 -2014, ESTABLISHING NEW SUN PROTECTION PROTOCOLS FOR LIFEGUARDS AT COUNTY PARKS

WHEREAS, Suffolk County is home to some of the most beautiful beaches in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the County parks system includes three (3) swimming beaches, located at Smith Point, Cupsogue and Meschutt County Parks; and

WHEREAS, the County recertifies and hires approximately 112 lifeguards each year to protect park visitors during the Summer season; and

WHEREAS, lifeguards spend long periods of time outdoors, including during the peak hours of the sun's strength; and

WHEREAS, due to their high sun exposure, lifeguards are at increased risk of skin cancers; and

WHEREAS, there have been great advances in the products and materials that provide UV protection to aid in the fight against skin cancer; and

WHEREAS, the County of Suffolk should adopt appropriate measures to protect County lifeguards from the harmful effects of ultraviolet light while they are on duty; now, therefore be it

1st RESOLVED, that the Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation ("the Department") is hereby authorized, empowered and directed to establish new requirements in the training and employment of County lifeguards to protect them from harmful sun exposure; and be it further

2nd RESOLVED, that the Department shall provide, and require that County lifeguards use while on duty, large sun umbrellas or large canopies (i.e. EZ-Ups), wide brim hats and shirts that protect the wearer with a minimum SPF of 50, and UV protectant sunglasses, with one pair of sunglasses provided by the Department per season; and be it further

3rd RESOLVED, that sun protectant equipment shall be used at all times, except for periods of high wind, during which umbrellas and canopies may be closed, and during rescues, when sunglasses and hats can be removed; and be it further

4th RESOLVED, that the Department will include in its recertification course and training each year a minimum of 30 minutes devoted to the dangers of sun exposure and skin cancers, the best practices to protect oneself from the harmful effects of UV rays, and training on the prevention of melanoma; and be it further

5th **RESOLVED**, that all lifeguarding equipment, including the equipment provided for herein, shall be delivered to County lifeguards on or before May 1st of each year to ensure that the inventory is distributed prior to Memorial Day; and be it further

6th **RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall take effect on January 1, 2015; and be it further

7th **RESOLVED**, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(20), (21) and (27) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as a promulgation of regulations, rules, policies, procedures, and legislative decisions in connection with continuing agency administration, management and information collection, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED: October 7, 2014 ****NOT ADOPTED****