

Form for Voluntary Respirator Use

Portland Parks & Recreation

PP&R employees may choose to use air-purifying respirators or filtering facepiece respirators, also referred to as N95 or N99 disposable dust masks, on a voluntary basis during activities that involve exposures to low-level nuisance dust, other similar particulates, or when not specifically indicated by a chemical products SDS. According to Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration ("OR-OSHA") regulations, we must provide you with the following information if you wear a respirator voluntarily. This information is copied from the regulation. After reading the information below, please complete the section at the end of this form and return to your Supervisor.

29 CFR 1910.134, Appendix D - (Mandatory) Information for Employees Using Respirators When Not Required Under the Standard

Respirators are an effective method of protection against designated hazards when properly selected and worn. Respirator use is encouraged, even when exposures are below the exposure limit, to provide an additional level of comfort and protection for workers. However, if a respirator is used improperly or not kept clean, the respirator itself can become a hazard to the worker. Sometimes, workers may wear respirators to avoid exposures to hazards, even if the amount of hazardous substance does not exceed the limits set by OSHA standards. If your employer provides respirators for your voluntary use, or if you provide your own respirator, you need to take certain precautions to be sure that the respirator itself does not present a hazard.

You should do the following:

1. Read and heed all instructions provided by the manufacturer on use, maintenance, cleaning and care, and warnings regarding the respirators limitations.
2. Choose respirators certified for use to protect against the contaminant of concern. NIOSH, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, certifies respirators. A label or statement of certification should appear on the respirator or respirator packaging. It will tell you what the respirator is designed for and how much it will protect you.
3. Do not wear your respirator into atmospheres containing contaminants for which your respirator is not designed to protect against. For example, a respirator designed to filter dust particles will not protect you against gases, vapors, or very small solid particles of fumes or smoke.
4. Keep track of your respirator so that you do not mistakenly use someone else's respirator.
5. If you have medical questions or concerns related to your use of a respirator you may elect to complete a medical questionnaire to be reviewed by the City's Occupational Health Nurse.

The filtering facepiece respirator you have elected to use is approved, when fitted properly, for use against nuisance particulate matter (e.g., dirt, fiberglass, pollen, wildfire smoke). It will not provide protection from any chemical vapors such as those associated with pesticides, spray paints, or solvents (use an air-purifying respirator). It is not intended for use during work that may involve exposure to airborne asbestos fibers, silica dust, or lead dust. Work you perform that may involve airborne asbestos fibers, silica dust, or lead dust should be reviewed by HSE before the project proceeds. If you have questions concerning any of this information, please call HSE at (503) 502-4534.



Please complete the section below:

Name (Print Legibly): _____ Job Classification: _____

Work Unit: _____ Supervisor: _____ Location of Use: _____

Reason for using dust mask (describe nature of work, specific location, and type of particulate):

I have read and understood the information provided above:

Signature

Date