

COMMUNITY COMMITMENT

The City of Owen Sound is committed to maintaining accessible, inclusive, discrimination and harassment-free environments that respect human rights.

The Julie McArthur Regional Recreation Centre and the Harry Lumley Bayshore Community Centre have transitioned to become Nut-Aware. This transition will allow us to better accommodate users that enjoy these facilities.

QUESTIONS & CONCERNS

A Frequently Asked Questions page regarding the City of Owen Sound's Anaphylaxis Policy is available on the City of Owen Sound Website and at the staff offices of the Bayshore Community Centre and Julie McArthur Regional Recreation Centre.

Should you require further information, please contact the City's Community Services Department.

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ANAPHYLAXIS POLICY

POLICY CS83
By-Law # 2017-40

A BRIEF OVERVIEW

This Anaphylaxis Policy aims to provide procedures for the management of Anaphylaxis at the Julie McArthur Regional Recreation Centre and Bayshore Community Centre to comply with the Policy on Ableism and Discrimination which recognizes Anaphylaxis as a disability under Human Rights Legislation.

There is a legal responsibility for service providers to accommodate people with potentially life threatening allergies, as they would any other person with a disability. The City of Owen Sound is committed to maintaining accessible and inclusive services at its Recreation Facilities.

Importantly, as nuts and nut products are the most common source of allergen, the City will be transitioning its Recreation Facilities to “Nut-Aware” facilities. This Policy aims to implement that transition.

All reasonable efforts will be made to control the environment in order to minimize the exposure of identified causative allergens. Despite our best efforts, the City cannot guarantee a 100 percent allergen-free environment.

A full copy of this policy is available at the Service Owen Sound Counter or www.owensound.ca.

WHAT IS ANAPHYLAXIS?

Anaphylaxis is a severe systemic allergic reaction which can be fatal, resulting in circulatory collapse or shock.

Signs and symptoms of anaphylaxis can occur within minutes of exposure to an allergen. The ways symptoms appear can vary from person to person and from episode to episode in the same person.

Common Symptoms include, but are not limited to:

- Hives, swelling in face, itching, warmth and redness;
- Coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath, chest pain and cold like symptoms
- Nausea, dizziness, vomiting, passing out and a weak pulse

KEY POLICY FEATURES

Controlling the Environment

- All reasonable efforts are made to minimize the risk of exposure to products that contain nuts in an attempt to decrease the risk of exposure to allergens.
- The City of Owen Sound cannot guarantee a 100 percent allergen-free environment.

Communication Strategy

- Increased education and awareness of Anaphylaxis through a targeted ad campaign featuring signage at the Nut-Aware facilities, cooperation with local media and a strong presence on Social Media.

Community Outreach

- Informing users about the transition to Nut-Aware at our Recreation Facilities.
- Encouraging parents/guardians to play an active role in the prevention and communication and education strategies.

Training Procedures

- City staff is trained to deal with emergency situations, including Anaphylaxis. As with any emergency situation, if you see someone experiencing Anaphylaxis, please call 911.
- If you have Anaphylaxis relating to Nuts or Nut Products, please complete an individualized plan located on our website, www.owensound.ca.

