Privacy & Editorial Policy

Regio Online Nederland

English

Regio Online Nederland provides local and regional news through our network of 62 regional news sections. We believe news should be accessible to everyone. Therefore, our website is free to use, and we do not use paywalls or registration screens. We do everything possible to protect your privacy. Below we explain in plain language how we handle your data, cookies, and the news.Below, we explain in plain language how we handle your data and our news.

1. Privacy First

   We handle data differently than many commercial media sites. We minimize data usage:

2. **No Google Analytics**: We do not use programs that track you across the internet to collect visitor statistics. To measure traffic on our site, we only use our own counters (server logs). These count numbers, not individuals.
3. **Media and Images (Google)**: To display our tens of thousands of news reports quickly and efficiently to you, images and videos are loaded directly via Google's servers (Google Drive and YouTube). In this process, Google places cookies (such as the NID cookie) on your device. This is technically necessary to display the images. Because these files are essential for our news provision, they are loaded as soon as you use the site.
4. **No Ad Networks**: We do not sell your data to advertising networks. We do occasionally place sponsored articles or banners from direct partners, but we do not use third-party 'trackers' to build advertising profiles of you.

5. What data do we keep?

   We only keep data if it is strictly necessary for our work:

- **Contact:** If you email us or fill out the contact form, we save your name, email address, and your message to be able to answer you.
- **Press Releases:** Do you send a press release with a photo? We save this in our archive. We do this in case there is a dispute later about who the creator of the photo is (copyright). This way, we can always prove from whom we received the photo.
- **Administration:** If you are a client, we keep your invoices in our accounting system (Moneybird). This is mandatory for 7 years by the Dutch Tax Authority.

6. How we create news (Journalism)

   We work according to fixed rules:

- **Sensitive News:** We do not publish recognizable photos of victims. We are very restrained in reporting on incidents involving suicide to prevent copycat behavior. If we do report on it (because it serves a major public interest), we will always refer to help resources (such as 113.nl).
- **The Truth:** Press freedom means that we are allowed to create independent news. Sometimes reporting the news is more important than the privacy of an individual.
- **In the Picture:** If we create news on the street (public space), this is generally allowed. You can only object if you have a very good reason ('reasonable interest'). Email your reason to communicatie@regioonline.nl. We will then review the law and respond within 2 weeks.

4. Comments and Links

- **Comments:** If you post a comment under an article, our system saves your email address and IP address. We do this to prevent spam and abuse. Your email address will never be published on the site.
- **Links to others:** Sometimes we link to other websites. We are not responsible for how those websites handle your data.
- **Social Media:** We are present on platforms such as Facebook, X, Instagram, and LinkedIn. Please note: these companies have their own privacy rules. We have no influence on that.

5 Your Rights.

You may always ask us what data we have about you. Since we do not build reader profiles, we usually only have your emails. If we have handled a question, your email is usually deleted after some time.

Do you want us to delete something? Send an email to **Communication** (communicatie@regioonline.nl). They will check if **your** request is clear and if the information is correct. Then they will make a trade-off: can we delete this without harming the content of the news article, the interests of Regio Online Nederland, or the interests of others?

Effective date: January 1, 2026