



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

DATE: June 12, 2006

DEH Circular Letter # 2006-27

TO: Local Director's of Health

**FROM: Ray Jarema
Environmental Health Section
Recreation Program**

RE: New Family Campground Regulations

On December 20, 2005 the Legislative Regulations Review Committee approved new "Family Campground" Regulations. These regulations have been in the making for over 5 years. Special Thanks goes to Frank Schaub (formally with the Department of Public Health) and Robert Scully for all their work efforts.

The affected sections of the Regulations of the Connecticut State Agencies are as follows:

- Section 19-13-B97 has been repealed
- Section 19a-2a-29 has been added
- Section 19-13-B26 has been amended to include reference to Section 19a-2a-29

These regulations are now available on the DPH web page www.dph.state.ct.us.

The family campground regulations have been substantially revised since they were originally approved. The key components of the Regulation that Local Health Departments that need to focus on are as follows:

- The family campground require annual registration and inspection.
- Annual registration of each family campground with the local director of health.
- Annual inspection of each family campground by the local director of health or his/her authorized agent.

The main changes to those regulations are enumerated in the following attachment.

Further questions should be directed as follows:

- Drinking Water Issues (860) 509-7333
- Family Campground Questions – Recreation Unit (860) 509-7296

cc: Local Health Administration
Ellen Blaschinski
Suzanne Blancaflor

Family Campground Regulations

Change: Public Health Code (PHC) Section 19-13-B97 repealed and replace by new regulation PHC Section 19a-2a-29 Family Campgrounds effective December 27, 2005

Subsection (a) Definition

Purpose

Subsection (b) Definition

Amended Definitions: 1.) Family Campground
2.) Camping unit site
3.) Camping trailer
4.) Camping unit
5.) Camping vehicles

Deleted Definitions: 1.) Remote campsite
2.) Natural campground

New Definitions: 1.) Atmospheric vacuum breaker
2.) Department
3.) Public Water System
4.) Sanitary Disposal Station
5.) Water Riser Pipe
6.) Water Supply Station

Subsection (c) General Provisions

- Annual registration window January 1 to April 30
- Campground aggrieved by an issued Director of Health order can appeal via Section 19a-229 CGS.
- Fire safety rules and regulations – Public posting of the following:
 - Fire/Police Department phone numbers
 - Location of nearest fire alarm box and public phones, name, location and phone number of campground
 - First Aid Kit – American Red Cross standard Unit 24
 - Directory of local hospitals, and Emergency Medical Technical (EMT) services

Subsection (d) Water Supply and Distribution

- Increase distribution system pressure from 20 to 25 psi
- Eliminated 35 gallon per hour peak flow requirement
- Amended distance water availability from campsites from 300 feet to 500 feet
- Water risen pipes shall be extended 12-24 inches above grade, no longer 6 inches
- Waterlines/tanks drained manually shall be disinfected before returning to service

- After repairs/disinfection must be absent of total coli forms

Subsection (e) Sanitary Facilities

- Distance for sanitary facilities from campsites increased from 300 to 500 feet. Camping sites with individual waste pump out services can be at greater distances (not specified)
- Required upgrading of toilet building construction (self closing drains, venting screening, etc.)
- Number of sanitary fixtures increased

Subsection (f) Subsurface Sewage Disposal

- Specifically delineates authorized agencies
- Department of Environmental Protection – systems greater than 5000 gallons per day – approval/permitting
- Department of Public Health – system less than 5000 gallons per day – approval/permitting (includes grey (sink) water also)

Subsection (g) Sanitary Disposal System (SDS) (formerly Holding Tank Dumping Station)

- One SDS shall be provided for every 150 (increased from 100) camping units that are not provided with individual sewer connections on scheduled pump out service
- Specifies that a Reduced Pressure Device (RPD) be installed on water supply lines at all SDS and that they be inspected and found functional at least annually when the campground opens.
- Mandated that all holding tanks at a SDS be equipped with high level alarms and an access manhole extended to guide (like pump chamber)

Subsection (h) Food Service Establishments

- Relatively unchanged

Subsection (i) General Sanitation

- Relatively unchanged