Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance Division
Environmental Health Section
Environmental Health Programs Unit
Campground Program
Recent Attempt at Revising Part 125 of PA 368 (Campground Act & Rules)
Shifts in the Campground Industry
Motivation Behind Revising Part 125 of PA 368

- Catch up with changes in campground industry: camping/resort cabins, larger RVs, seasonal sites (snowbirds), increased water use.
- Add enforcement protocol for unlicensed/unsafe campgrounds
- Develop adequate program funding for DEQ staff and adequate LHD reimbursements (attempt to recover from general funding loss after the 2014 budget cut).
- CG Regulations Workgroup formed to revise Part 125. Started with Campground Act. Rule revisions were to follow.
Regulations Workgroup – Stakeholders
(Active 1/2014-9/2015)

Ken Bowen, MALPH
Eric Pessel, MALEHA
Mary Cushion, Consultant
Keith Cheli, DNR
Cinda Karlik, MDARD
Keith Lambert, LARA
Richard Miller, State Fire Marshall, LARA
Tom Fraizer, Legislation Liaison for MI Townships Assoc.
Dan Stencil, MI Rec & Park Assoc
MI Association of Fairs & Exhibitions

Campground/Tourism Industry: David Cordray, Jim Horan, Paul Maitre, Bill Sheffer, Debra Duffy, Bob Garcia, David Lorenz, Steve Yencich

Engineering Industry: Michael Berrevoets, Rob Pirsein, Larry Stephens, MOWRA
DEQ: Dave Graves, Paul Sisson, Carrie Monosmith, Liane Shekter Smith
REGULATIONS WORKGROUP

- Met 9 times throughout 2014. Draft Act agreed upon at last meeting on 9/21/2015 but group unsuccessful.
- DEQ Executive Staff attended final meeting and advised any draft legislation that proposed an increase in regulations/fees would not be supported by the Legislature.
- Draft Act will be revisited in future.
U.S. EPA Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR)
- Effective **April 1, 2016**. New requirements for all public water supplies.
- Greatest impacts on seasonal systems.
- LHDs make “seasonal” determinations for their Noncommunity Water Supplies.

VISIT

[www.michigan.gov/deqnoncommunitywatersupply](http://www.michigan.gov/deqnoncommunitywatersupply)

“seasonal” determinations, start-up procedures, certs, siting plans, guidance
Licenses/Construction Permits
Licensing Process

- License Renewal Application and Invoice are mailed mid-October every year. Application, invoice and payment due back by December 31st.
- $100 Late Fee is assigned after 12/31.
- Most owners apply/pay for a 1-year license yearly.
- Some owners apply/pay for a 2-year or 3-year license. A multi-year license still requires an annual LHD inspection.
- A license is issued or held based on the previous year’s LHD Inspection Report.
- Repeat Violation results in a License Condition.
- Licenses can be held until a satisfactory inspection proving compliance is received. Be clear on report and contact DEQ for assistance with repeat violations or imminent health hazards.
Campgrounds

Michigan's Public Health Code, 333.1501-1510, as amended (the Act), and the administrative rules adopted pursuant to the Act establish the requirements for building and operating a campground. A license from the Michigan Department of Environment Quality is required to operate a campground in the State of Michigan.

Information
- Campground Program Information
- Campground汚れArea Assignments Map
- List of Licensed Campgrounds in Michigan
- Structure on Licensed Campgrounds
- Seasonal Public Groundwater Supply Handbook (Start an Chlorination, Sampling)
- Well House Requirements
- Campground Inspection Report: The Inspection Report is a tri-fold form and may not be downloaded or copied. Local health departments can contact the DEQ's Campground Program at 517-335-0520 or Rocheleau@michigan.gov for request more forms.
- Cabins and Park Models in Campgrounds
- Tent in Campgounds

Laws & Rules
- Pumping Well Holding Tanks (campground owners) vs. Pumping Septic (limited sewage issued)
- Revised Total Coliform Rule
- 2014-2015 Campground Regulations Workgroup - Currently Inactive
- Campground License and Construction Permit Fees
- Campground Act and Rules

Temporary Campgrounds
- **This Temporary Campground License Application is a tri-fold form and may not be downloaded or copied. Please visit your local health department for the application or call the DEQ's Campground Program at 517-335-0520.**
- Steps for Obtaining a Temporary Campground License

Permits
- Campground Construction Permit Application
- INSTRUCTIONS
- Campground Construction Permit Application
- Campground Discharge Permit Requirements for Campgrounds
List of licensed campgrounds – updated monthly on webpage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Campground Name</th>
<th>Campground Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alcona County</td>
<td>Harrisville State Park</td>
<td>Harrisville Township</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Alcona Park</td>
<td>Curtis Township</td>
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<td></td>
<td>S &amp; J Harrisville Campground</td>
<td>Harrisville Township</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lost Lake Woods Association</td>
<td>Alcona Township</td>
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<td>White Tail Bend RV Park and Tent</td>
<td>Caliwood Township</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Alcona Canoe Rental Inc</td>
<td>Curtis Township</td>
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<td>Alger County</td>
<td>Forest Lake State Forest Campground</td>
<td>Limestone Township</td>
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<td>Kingston Lake State Forest Campground</td>
<td>Burt Township</td>
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<td>Woodland Park</td>
<td>Burt Township</td>
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<td>Little Ducky Outdoor Campground</td>
<td>Au Train Township</td>
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<td>Munising Tourist Park</td>
<td>Grand Island Township</td>
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<td>Otter Lake Lodges and Campground</td>
<td>Au Train Township</td>
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<td>Allegan County</td>
<td>Singing Sands RV Park</td>
<td>Cass City Township</td>
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<td>Richards Duck Lake Trailer Park</td>
<td>Cheshire Township</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Samsatuck RV / Condo Association</td>
<td>Samsatuck Township</td>
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<td>Warner Memorial Campground</td>
<td>Lee Township</td>
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<td>Swan Lake Campground</td>
<td>Cheshire Township</td>
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<td>Silver Creek</td>
<td>Heaton Township</td>
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<td>Selkirk Lake</td>
<td>Wayland Township</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Stonable Lake Family Campground</td>
<td>Walton Township</td>
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<td>Sandy Pines Wilderness Trails Inc</td>
<td>Monterey/Salem Twp</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Son Life Camp &amp; Retreat Center</td>
<td>Wayland Township</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Westwood Outdoor Resort LLC</td>
<td>Ganges Township</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wy Lake Campground</td>
<td>Clyde Township</td>
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<td>Otsego Moose Campground</td>
<td>Otsego Township</td>
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<td>Campit Campground</td>
<td>Manistee Township</td>
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<td>Beechwood Pines</td>
<td>Hopkins Township</td>
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<td>Dunmore Lake Family Campground</td>
<td>Montgomery Township</td>
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<td>Triponos Family Camp Resort</td>
<td>Valley Township</td>
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<td>East Lake Campground</td>
<td>Hopkins Township</td>
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<td>Countryside</td>
<td>Cass City Township</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gales Swan Lake Campground</td>
<td>Cheshire Township</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Grand Valley Camp &amp; Ballers</td>
<td>Montebay Township</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hidden Ridge RV Community</td>
<td>Wadsworth Township</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hungry Horse Campground</td>
<td>Cass County</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Jensen’s Campground</td>
<td>Martindale Township</td>
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<td></td>
<td>US 131 Motorsports Park Inc</td>
<td>Martin Township</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Miller Lake Campground</td>
<td>Watson Township</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
DEQ Campground Construction Permit required prior to:

- Adding, subtracting, re-configuring campsites
- New/extended water or sewer lines
- Well demand increase or sewage flow increase (additional sites, service bldg., store, other structures)
- DEQ/LHD can combine efforts on well/sewage permits

Camping Cabins are defined as a “recreational unit” like a tent or RV. No permit needed, must be on a licensed campsite, may need local building permit (varies) and must have local electrical permits finals.

Resort Cabins are not defined as a “recreational unit”. Local zoning, building, plumbing, elec. permits/finals must be obtained. No DEQ Construction Permit needed for the structure. However, DEQ Construction Permit may be needed for demand/flow increase review and water/sewer line installation if sharing campground’s water distribution and/or sewer collection systems.

Construction Permit Process = Application, fee and 3 sets of plans
All electrical work performed within a campground must be permitted and final approved by the local electrical authority.

- Campsite service, new/upgrades to service, resort cabins, camping cabins, structures, etc.
All Electrical Work requires Permits/Final Inspections

Unpermitted electrical work may increase fire risk.
People are sleeping in RVs and cabins.
Inspections
Campground Inspection Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campground Name:</th>
<th>Location:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Owner's Name and Address:</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

**Inspection Date:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site: General (Rule 3)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current license issued (Sec. 12535)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site layout conforms with approval?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum 400 square feet for individual sites, 800 square feet for group sites</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No permanent structures on licensed sites</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum 80 feet between licensed sites</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum 1,000 feet between licensed sites and non-licensed sites</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum 800 square feet for group sites</td>
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</tbody>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Water Supply (Rule 6)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regulated by Non-Municipal Water Supply Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water pressure maintained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minimum 60 psi</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Septic Tank (Rule 14)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Property maintained</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minimum 75 feet to wells</td>
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<tr>
<th>Miscellaneous Requirements:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Commercial garbage container emptied at least once weekly</td>
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<tr>
<td>No stop and go valves</td>
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<tr>
<td>No tarping over garbage cans</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Comments:**

Note: Use Campground Inspection Report Supplement (Form EPA-11-01-1) for additional comments.
Temporary Campground
Site Water Connections

- Backflow prevention requirements at site water connections are inconsistent across state.
  - AVB is not appropriate when there are downstream valves (and valves are present in RVs).
  - AVB/PVB would have to be 6” higher than the highest piping/outlet.
- Currently holding meetings and gathering data from other states.
- DEQ Campground Program does not require AVBs at most site water connections due to the application and due to RV ANSI Standard 1192 (30+ year old standard).
ANSI/NFPA 1192 - Standard on Recreational Vehicles
(American National Standards Institute / National Fire Protection Association)

www.webstore.ansi.org
search 1192-2008 (52 page pdf $49)

NFPA 1192-2008
NFPA 1192: Standard on Recreational Vehicles, 2008 Edition

Expanded 2008 NFPA 1192 is the key to recreational vehicle fire safety.

With unique characteristics of size and use, recreational vehicles require a distinct set of fire and life safety criteria to guard against the hazards of fire and explosions. Apply the 2008 NFPA 1192: Recreational Vehicles for comprehensive provisions for the correct installation of plumbing, fuel-burning, electrical, and other safety-related systems.

Technical changes in the expanded 2008 NFPA 1192 include revised requirements for recreational vehicle exits, a new annex on product listing standards, and two important new sections addressing:

- Testing high-pressure piping systems for gas leakage
- Fuel tank construction

This widely used document replaced ANSI A119.2 with a complete set of merged rules regulating the full spectrum of safety in recreational vehicles. Manufacturers and authorities depend on the 2008 NFPA 1192 for the latest protocols for the protection of people, property, and the environment.
“Honey wagons” allowed per Rule 9.8 but intended as a “mechanical pump-out facility” for RV waste holding tanks only. This Rule was not intended for privy waste.

CG Rule 9.8 is already conflicting with Part 117 of PA 368 (Septage) - which doesn’t allow *anyone* but a licensed septage hauler to pump/haul septage.
Owner must hire licensed septage hauler for privy pump-outs. Owner may not pump out their own privies. Hauler must take privy waste to approved land app site/receiving station. Hauler and campground owner must keep privy waste out of the sanitary (dump) stations to protect the groundwater due to:

- High strength waste (no graywater)
- Deodorizing chemicals (formaldehyde*) in portables
  
  *Campground owners urged to allow non-toxic deodorizers

DEQ, Water Resources Division requesting DEQ EH Section to re-look at holding tank (pump & haul) option at sanitary stations when graywater levels are too low.

- DEQ, WRD issues groundwater discharge permits and are using g.w. monitoring wells to analyze parameters at failures. Efforts to protecting groundwater may result in process changes (holding tanks vs. drainfields).
Direct connections between drinking water supply and sewage require immediate removal and owner education.

Watch for items sold by Campgrounds & RV stores
- Document # of seepage pits. Owner not allowed to construct more than what licensed for (no new pits after 2000 Rule revision).
- A seepage pit is not allowed where a site water connection is present (unless approved by LHD).
- Discharge line ≤ 1.5” diameter.
- Graywater must discharge below surface.
- Rule 18.2 allows LHDs to phase these out.
- “Blue boy” holding tanks are recommended over seepage pits to protect groundwater.
Utilities to be above grade unless installed under a permit

- Buried extension cords and buried water hoses are not approved (even if placed in PVC and goose-necked to prevent flooding). This outdated practice does not meet state electrical and state plumbing codes for buried utility lines.

- DEQ’s stance: No new conduits allowed, will support LHDs if they pursue removal of existing – especially when there are water quality issues/BacT MCLs.
Rule 7: Managers

- Sign posted shall include:
  - Where off-duty manager can be contacted
- Info provided on a handout at check-in OR posted on a sign:
  - Location of nearest available telephone
  - Locations and phone numbers for
    - Police
    - Fire
    - Medical Assistance
All recreational units (RVs, tents, camping cabins) must be on licensed, numbered campsites. Coherent site numbering is vital for emergency response personnel.

A Group Camping Area must have a sign identifying the name of the Area (for emergency response purposes) and the max capacity of people.

\[
\text{Sq Ft} / 1200 = \# \text{ equivalent sites and recreational units. } \quad \# \text{ sites} \times 8 = \text{max capacity of people.}
\]

Verify all septic tank riser lids are childproof.

Drinking water hoses are Food Grade. Act 399 or Part 125 does not require them to be stamped “NSF” but owner should keep packaging to confirm if no stamp on hose is present.

Graywater discharge or irrigation may be garden hoses.

Ask and make comments about any modifications made from previous year.

Attempt to count number of sites and compare it to license. Ask for a site map and attach to report if unsure.
Bathing Beaches
RULE 35: “A swimming pool or a bathing beach at a campground shall comply with the provisions of sections 12521 through 12563 of the act (Sections of Part 125 of the Public Health Code related to pools/beaches) and R 325.2101 to R 325.2103 (Bathing Beach Rules) and R 325.2111 to R 325.2199 (Swimming Pool Rules) of the Michigan Administrative Code.”
Sec. 12451.5.a ““Bathing beach” means a beach or bathing area offered to the public for recreational bathing or swimming. It does not include a public swimming pool...”

Sec. 12451.3 “The owner of a bathing beach shall post at the main entrance to the bathing beach or other visible location a sign that states whether or not the bathing beach has been tested or evaluated (sampled for E. Col)...and, if the bathing beach has been tested, the location of where test results may reviewed. Open stretches of beach or beaches at road ends that are not advertised or posted as public bathing beaches do not need to have signs posted.” (i.e. Hwy 2 Lakeshore)
Sec. 12542 “The owner or a person in charge of a public bathing beach shall provide and maintain suitable and adequate safety and rescue equipment and suitable and adequate means of communication with outside sources of assistance, which shall be available and accessible at the public bathing beach when it is open to bathers.”

*****This is subjective language if you don’t have a bathing beach ordinance.*****

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin (NOAA) concerned about high # of Great Lakes drownings. NOAA working with Office of Great Lakes on weather patterns/rip currents. (Focus shifting from E.Coli to Algae Blooms to Drownings)

“Over the past 12 years, 138 Great Lakes swimmers have drowned in incidents blamed at least in part on rip currents and other dangerous currents. Half of those deaths, 69 of them, occurred in Michigan.”
Unfortunately, there is no state bathing beach program, funding or oversight for some of the original 1978 legislation in PA 368. The DEQ Campground Program is currently working on obtaining an A.G. informal opinion.

The term “suitable and adequate safety and rescue equipment” is subjective so the DEQ urges campground owners to work with their insurance company and/or property attorney to meet their specific facility needs.

If the LHD is unsure if the “bathing beach” box on inspection report should be checked off as compliant, please leave it blank with a note at the bottom explaining what safety and rescue equipment is present. Also, include a written recommendation to the owner that he contact his insurance agent and/or attorney for a determination.

Counties that have adopted their own local bathing beach ordinance typically have specific requirements in regards to “suitable and adequate safety and rescue equipment”.
Sarah Rottiers
517-284-6520
RottiersS@michigan.gov