



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF  
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY  
LANSING



LIESL EICHLER CLARK  
DIRECTOR

January 6, 2020

Dear Campground Owner:

SUBJECT: 2020 Campground License Effective January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020

Enclosed is your 2020 Campground License, issued by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Drinking Water and Environmental Health Division (DWEHD), Campground Program.

An annual inspection by your local health department (LHD) is required for continued license renewal. Please contact your LHD to request information about their inspection process and to obtain an inspection during the 2020 camping season in order to remain licensed the following year.

Please note that the original 1978 legislation in Section 12542 of Act 368 of the Public Health Code requires owners of a bathing beach to provide "suitable and adequate safety and rescue equipment" and "suitable and adequate means of communication with outside sources of assistance." This applies to campground owners that allow swimming at a bathing beach (at any surface water that is advertised/mapped as a beach or where people routinely swim).

The EGLE Campground Program has partnered with the Great Lakes Water Safety Consortium (GLWSC), a nonprofit organization with a wide array of members establishing best practices for beach safety. The core of GLWSC's recommended rescue equipment for bathing beaches is at least one **20" throw ring (preferably orange with reflective tape and grab handles) attached to a minimum 75' floating rope with throw ring directions posted above the ring.** The Consortium offers these and other beach warning signs regarding various dangerous currents (for Great Lakes beaches), which are available on their website at the following link: [GreatLakesWaterSafety.org](http://GreatLakesWaterSafety.org) (click on the "Shop" tab). Their site also includes best practices for beaches with lifeguards: click on the "Tips" tab, then scroll down to "best practices." The GLWSC can be reached by phone at 734-358-8982.

The Great Lakes Surf Rescue Project is a GLWSC member organization that offers many levels of water safety educational presentations and training. They can be reached at the following website link: [GLSRP.org](http://GLSRP.org) or by phone at 708-903-0166.

EGLE urges you to contact your property attorney and/or insurance agent to determine if additional equipment is needed such as a life jacket loaner station, a buoyed off area to separate swimmers from boats or piers, and a mechanism to call for help such as an airhorn or whistle. A licensed campground is already required to post a sign indicating the location of the nearest emergency phone and addresses and phone numbers of local emergency response services.

In addition, per Section 12541 of Act 368 of the Public Health Code, owners of a bathing beach must post a sign stating whether or not the bathing beach is tested (sampled for bacteria). If the beach is tested, the sign must further state where the results may be reviewed. Open stretches of

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beach (i.e. most Great Lakes beaches) or beaches at road ends that are not advertised or posted as public bathing beaches are exempt from this requirement.

Prior to starting construction projects, please visit our website at [Michigan.gov/EGLECampgrounds](https://Michigan.gov/EGLECampgrounds) or call the number below for guidance on what permits may be required prior to starting the work.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact this office at 517-282-4032; RottiersS@Michigan.gov; or EGLE, DWEHD, Campground Program, P.O. Box 30817, Lansing, Michigan 48909-8311.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah Rottiers, REHS". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Sarah Rottiers, REHS

cc: LHDs