

2010 RECREATIONAL SEASON NEWSLETTER

CAMPGROUND AND/OR PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL OWNER/OPERATORS IN THE CENTRAL MICHIGAN DISTRICT

As we enter the 2010 recreational season, the Central Michigan District Health Department would like to take a moment to remind our facilities of some of the important operational requirements to stay in compliance and provide a safe and fun environment for your patrons. Enclosed in this newsletter are a few key requirements along with some general information on topics that have been frequently asked of our staff. We welcome any additional topic and/or ideas for future newsletters. Best wishes for a safe and prosperous recreational season in 2010. [Please check out our website at WWW.CMDHD.ORG](http://WWW.CMDHD.ORG) for new updates and information.



FOR CAMPGROUNDS:

- If closed for the winter season, the well must be disinfected and the water supply sampled prior to opening the campground. Two safe bacteriological (taken at least twenty four hours apart) and one safe nitrate water sample **is required before opening for the season**. At least one more sample for coliform bacteria is required once the campground opens. We recommend you take this sample right away after opening so we can verify the water supply is safe and to avoid problems with late samples and penalties. The health department has a water lab available for testing.
- Campground water risers need to be equipped with an atmospheric vacuum breaker, and water lines cannot be buried between the camping unit and the riser.
- Maintenance of the campground septic system and system components (if applicable) is an important part of the operation and the responsibility of the campground. Septic tanks need to be inspected and pumped as often as necessary, filters cleaned and drainfield inspected for saturation or leaks. Check for leaks at towers, faucets and toilets as this can lead to premature failure of the sewage system.
- Temporary food licenses are required when a campground or other organization provides foods to the public. A campground which prepares hot dogs, hamburgers, eggs, chili or other similar foods must apply for a temporary food license at least 5 working days in advance of the event. If you are preparing any type of food for campers and are unsure whether a license is needed, contact your local health department office.
- If your campground has a swimming beach open to the campers, you need to sample the beach for bacteria throughout the summer season. The health department provides testing for beach samples. If you choose not to sample, you must post signs that the water is not tested safe for swimming.



FOR PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS:

- Monthly operation reports need to be completed on a daily basis and copies sent to your local CMDHD branch office monthly while the swimming pool/spa is in operation.
- Quarterly bacteriological samples (unless required more frequently by the local health department) need to be obtained with safe results of the pool water and copies of the results sent to your local CMDHD branch office. The local health department has a water lab available for this testing.
- Proper working flow meters need to be installed and maintained in the pump houses. This is the leading cause of pool rule violations.
- Any problems with the pool water quality or other issues need to be reported to your local CMDHD branch office immediately.
- A qualified person needs to be readily available at all times or within 15 minutes of being contacted whenever the pool is accessible to swimmers. This qualified person is required to be familiar with pool operations, such as water chemistry and mechanical equipment, and pool safety.
- A copy of contingency plans is required to be at the pool premises.
- Pool safety equipment such as approved backboards, head immobilizers, rescue poles, first aid kits, rescue rings, etc., must be located at the pool where easily accessible at all times.

FOR CAMPGROUNDS AND SWIMMING POOLS:

- Any changes to campsites, water lines, sewage system components, electrical systems, pumps, disinfection equipment, etc., need to be approved by the DEQ prior to being placed into service via a construction permit.

The Assurance Water Lab of Central Michigan District Health Department offers bacteriological drinking water and pool water testing with a rapid turn around time of 1-2 days. Contact your local branch office or the Assurance Water Lab directly to inquire about testing and delivery procedures at 989-426-8985 extension 8320.

To contact your local CMDHD office, please use one of the following numbers:

Arenac (989) 846-6531, Extension 8110
Clare (989) 539-6731, Extension 8210
Gladwin (989) 426-8985, Extension 8311
Isabella (989) 773-5921, Extension 8436
Osceola (231) 832-5532, Extension 8522
Roscommon (989) 366-9166, Extension 8611

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Please visit us at our web site, www.cmdhd.org