



## CAMPGROUNDS & PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL OWNER/OPERATORS

With the beginning of the 2022 season, the Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD) would like to remind you of important operational requirements to stay in compliance and provide a safe and fun environment for this season. We want to highlight key requirements along with some helpful tips on topics that have been frequently asked of our staff.

### Campground and Public Swimming Pool Safety Reminders

Proper cleaning of bathroom facilities and other public areas is necessary to keep your patrons safe. Cleaning facilities frequently, using effective disinfectants, is your first line of defense against harmful bacteria and viruses that could be present at your facility. [Click here](#) for a handy guide from the CDC. The guide is written for controlling flu in schools, but the information is suitable for campground and pool operators. Remember to always follow manufacturer's directions and wear proper protective clothing when using chemicals.

It is the pool owner's responsibility to make sure the pool is properly equipped with safety equipment. Although you hope an emergency never happens, you want to be ready if it does. All safety equipment must be located at the pool and easily accessible at all times. Pools should also have a contingency plan on the premises with details on what to do in case of an emergency. Lastly, a qualified person must be on site and readily available or available **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, mechanical equipment, and pool safety. The Michigan Rules for Public Swimming Pools requires a minimum of one coliform bacteria sample per quarter that the pool is open. Sample results must be kept on file.

#### Checklist of safety equipment

- Working 9-1-1 phone on site and properly labeled with address of property and facility name.
- Back board with 3 straps and head immobilizer in good condition.
- First aid kit and blood spill kit
- Throwing rope ring buoy that is 1.5 times longer than width of pool
- 12-foot blunt ended rescue pole (shepherd hook not necessary)

For a copy of the rules, operation report form, and other helpful guidance, visit the [EGLE Pool Program](#).

# Campground Operators

·Did you disinfect and/or flush the distribution system and collect samples? Please send the water supply startup form to the Local Health Department.

- Inspect the sewage treatment system for saturation or surfacing wastewater. Check for water leaks at towers, faucets, and toilets as this can lead to premature failure of the sewage system.
- Check playground equipment and structures for sharp corners/edges, missing or damaged parts, and hornet or wasp nests prior to opening for the season.
- Temporary food licenses are required when a campground or other organization provides food 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.
- 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 can test beach samples for the presence of E. coli and verify the water quality meets state standards. Call us for information on when to sample and cost.
- Your campground is licensed for a specific number of camping sites. However, the **Campground Rules allow for a temporary campground license to cover overflow camping**. You will need a suitable minimum area for the additional campsites and plans for water supply and wastewater disposal. Campgrounds are reminded to apply for a temporary campground license **2 weeks in advance** of anticipated overflow of campers. The temporary permit is valid for a 2-week period but may be extended up to 4 weeks with approval through the health department. Not less than 30 days shall elapse between the end of one licensing period and the beginning of another for the same campground location. This is intended to allow for increased usage of your facility during busy times. If you find your business routinely attracts campers to the point of overflow, you should consider permanently licensing these “overflow” campsites.

## Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)

Do you have a beach, lake, or pond where waterfowl congregate? Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) is an extremely contagious virus found in many bird species (most often in migratory waterfowl like ducks, geese, swans, and predatory birds) and can be transmitted to domestic birds (such as chickens and turkeys). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has determined the HPAI does not present an immediate public health concern at this time. It is not easily transmitted to people without close contact.

HPAI is spread directly through the droppings, saliva, and nasal discharges of infected birds as well as indirectly through any equipment, feed/feed ingredients, water sources, bedding, and/or clothing and shoes of caretakers that may have been exposed to infected birds. HPAI is a major concern because domestic birds are very susceptible to HPAI, causing high death rates in chicken flocks. These losses can lead to significant economic impacts.

If you have a beach, it is recommended that feeding wild waterfowl be discouraged. Avoid sick birds and report sick or dying birds to the Department of Natural Resources. Visit [www.cmdhd.org](http://www.cmdhd.org) for more information about HPAI and other communicable diseases.

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