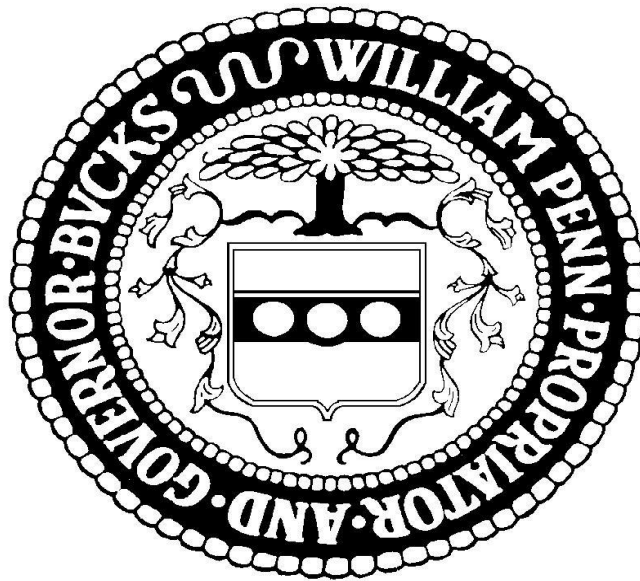


BUCKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

RULES AND REGULATIONS

FOR CONDUCTING AND OPERATING ORGANIZED CAMPS

AND CAMPGROUNDS



EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 1993

BUCKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT of HEALTH
Rules and Regulations
For Conducting and Operating
Organized Camps and Campgrounds

SECTION ONE - GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1 Legal Authority.

Under the provisions of the "Local Health Administration Law", Act No. 315, approved August 24, 1951, P.L. 1304, The following Rules and Regulations are hereby adopted.

1.2 Provisions.

These Rules and Regulations shall be liberally construed and applied to promote the underlying purpose of protecting the public's health and the health of the campers. These Rules and Regulations are based upon the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources, Title 25, Chapter 191, Rules and Regulations for Organized Camps and Campgrounds. Some additional requirements are based on the Bucks County Department of Health Rules and Regulations for Conducting and Operating Food Establishments, Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act 537, the Pennsylvania Safe Drinking Water Act 25 PA Code (Chapter 109), Bucks County Department of Health Rules and Regulations Governing Public Health Nuisances and Bucks County Department of Health Rules and Regulations Governing Individual and Community On-Lot Sewage Disposal Systems.

1.3 Rules and Regulations.

These Rules and Regulations shall supersede the previously adopted Rules and Regulations effective April 1, 1971, entitled, "Rules and Regulations for The Control of Sanitation in Organized Camps and Campgrounds".

SECTION TWO - DEFINITIONS

2.1 List of Definitions.

The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation of these Rules and Regulations.

- (a) Approved - means procedures, construction and products acceptable to the Bucks County Department of Health.
- (b) Bathing Place - means any outdoor or indoor place used for amateur, professional or recreational swimming or bathing whether or not a fee is charged for admission or for the use of said place, exclusive of a bathing place at a private, single family residence which is used solely by the owner of the residence, his family and any personal guests.
- (c) Campground - means a tract or tracts of land, or any portion thereof, used for the purpose of providing a space or spaces for trailers, campers, recreational vehicles or tents, as herein defined, for camping or temporary living with or without a fee being charged for the leasing, renting or occupancy of such space.

- (d) Department - means the Bucks County Department of Health.
- (e) Food Establishment - means any place, permanent or temporary within Bucks County where food is prepared, handled, served, sold, or provided to the consumer as further defined in the Health Department Food Establishment Regulations.
- (f) Garbage - means all putrescible wastes, except sewage and body waste.
- (g) Industrial waste - A liquid, gaseous, radioactive, solid or other substance, which is not sewage, resulting from manufacturing or industry or other plant or works and mine drainage, silt, coal mine solids, rock, debris, dirt and clay from coal mines, coal collieries, breakers or other coal processing operations. The term includes substances whether or not generally characterized as waste.
- (h) Lavatory - means a basin or sink for handwashing with hot and cold running water and drainpipe connected to an approved sewage system.
- (i) Organized Camp - means a combination of programs and facilities established for the primary purpose of providing an outdoor group living experience for children, youth and adults, with social, recreational and educational objectives, which is operated and used for five or more consecutive days during one or more seasons of the year.
- (j) Permit - means the document issued by the Bucks County Department of Health which authorizes a person to operate an organized camp or campground.
- (k) Person - shall include any individual, landowner (which is defined as any person holding title to or having a proprietary or equitable interest in either surface or subsurface rights), landlord, lessor, land occupier (including but not limited to easement owner, tenant, lessee or occupant of a structure or land, whether the landowner or not, any corporation, including public or private corporation for profit or not for profit, association, partnership firm, trust, trustee, estate, executor, executrix, administrator, administratrix or other fiduciaries, department board, bureau or agency of the Commonwealth, political subdivision, municipality, district, authority or any other legal entity whatsoever which is recognized or other legal entity set forth above. Whenever used in any clause prescribing and imposing a penalty or imposing a fine or imprisonment the term "Person" shall include all of the above set forth individuals and entities as well as members, officers, and/or employees of any corporation, an association, partnership or firm and the officer, directors of any local agency, municipality, municipal authority and/or political subdivision and the supervisors, councilmen, of any political subdivision public or private corporation for profit or not for profit.
- (l) Premises - means any house, structure or other building and its adjoining grounds.
- (m) Refuse - means all non-putrescible wastes generally regarded and classified as rubbish, trash, junk and similar materials which have been discarded by the owner or possessor thereof as useless or worthless to them.

- (n) **Safe Drinking Water Act** - means the Pennsylvania Safe Drinking Water Act (P.L. 206, No. 43) and appropriate regulations.
- (o) **Sanitary Station** - means a facility used for disposing of sewage generated by travel trailers, truck campers, motor homes, camping trailers, or recreational vehicles.
- (p) **Sewage** - means any substance that contains any of the waste products or excrement or other discharge from the bodies of human beings or animals and any noxious or deleterious substances being harmful or inimical to the public health, or to animal or aquatic life or to the use for domestic water or for recreation or which constitutes pollution under The Clean Streams Law (35 P.S. §§ 691.1-691.1001).

The term shall include, but not be limited to, toilet, lavatory, kitchen or laundry waste water, liquid waste and seepage from floor drains, liquid waste from sink drains from any structure including any trailers, campers, motor homes or recreational vehicles, garbage cans, dumpsters or compactors and the cleaning waste from these garbage storage containers.

- (q) **Sewage Regulations** - means the Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act, Act 537, and appropriate 25 PA. Code Chapters 71, 72 and 73 and the Bucks County Department of Health Rules and Regulations Governing Individual and Community On-Lot Sewage Disposal Systems and the Bucks County Department of Health Rules and Regulations relating to Public Health Nuisances.
- (r) **Sewage facilities.** - A system of sewage collection, conveyance, treatment and disposal which will prevent the discharge of untreated or inadequately treated sewage or other waste into waters of this Commonwealth or otherwise provide for the safe and sanitary treatment and disposal of sewage or other waste.
 - (1) **Individual sewage system** - A sewage facility, whether publicly or privately owned, located on a single lot and serving one equivalent dwelling unit and collecting, treating and disposing of sewage in whole or in part into the soil or into waters of this Commonwealth or by means of conveyance of retaining tank wastes to another site for final disposal.
 - (A) **Individual on-lot sewage system** - An individual sewage system which uses a system of piping, tanks or other facilities for collecting, treating and disposing of sewage into a subsurface absorption area or a retaining tank.
 - (B) **Individual sewerage system** - An individual sewage system which uses a method of sewage collection, conveyance, treatment and disposal other than renovation in a subsurface absorption area, or retention in a retaining tank.
 - (2) **Community sewage system** - A sewage facility, whether publicly or privately owned, for the collection of sewage from two or more lots, or two or more equivalent dwelling units and treatment or disposal, or both, of the sewage on one or more of the lots or at another site.
 - (A) **Community on-lot sewage system** - A community sewage system which uses a system of piping, tanks or other facilities for collecting,

treating and disposing of sewage into a subsurface soil absorption area of retaining tank.

- (B) **Community sewerage system** - A community sewage system which uses a method of sewage collection, conveyance, treatment and disposal other than renovation in a subsurface absorption area, or retention in a retaining tank.
- (s) **Source of Water** - means any well, spring, cistern, infiltration gallery, stream, reservoir, pond or lake from which by any means, water is obtained or collected either intermittently or continuously for use by the public.
- (t) **Tent** - means a portable lodging unit usually made of canvas, plastic, skins or strong cloth stretched and usually sustained by poles and is dependent upon separate toilet and lavatory facilities.
- (u) **Trailer** - means a vehicular portable structure built on, or designed to be mounted on a chassis or wheels or construed as an integral part of a self-propelled vehicle for use as a temporary dwelling for travel, recreation and vacation commonly known as travel trailers, pick-up truck campers, motor homes, camping trailers, pop-up campers or recreational vehicles (RV's).
- (v) **Trailer or Tent Space** - means a parcel of land in an organized camp or campground for the placement of a single trailer and/or tent and the exclusive use of its occupants.
- (w) **Vectors** - means any rodent, insect or other animal, excluding man, which is capable of carrying or harboring a disease infectious to man.
- (x) **Waters of this Commonwealth** - Rivers, streams, creeks, rivulets impoundments, ditches, water courses, storm sewers, lakes, dammed water, ponds, springs, and other bodies or channels of conveyance of surface and underground water, or of their parts, whether natural or artificial within or on the boundaries of this Commonwealth.
- (y) **Water Supply** - means a source or sources of water including any and all water treatment, storage facilities and distribution facilities.

SECTION THREE - PERMITS

3.1 Permit Requirement.

No person shall operate or permit to be operated within the County of Bucks an organized camp or campground who does not possess a valid permit, issued by the Department. A separate permit is required for each separate organized camp or campground operating in Bucks County. Only a person who complies with the provisions and requirements of these rules and regulations shall be entitled to receive or retain such a permit. Permits are not transferable. Permits are valid from the date of issuance and must be renewed every year thereafter.

3.2 Application for Permit.

Any person desiring to operate an organized camp or campground in Bucks County shall make written application for a permit on forms provided by the Department. Each application for permit must be accompanied by an inspection and permit fee in accordance with the fee schedule established by the Bucks County Board of Health.

3.3 Inspection Requirements.

Prior to approval of an application for a permit, the Department shall inspect the organized camp or campground to determine compliance with the requirements of the rules and regulations. The department shall issue a permit to the applicant if the inspection reveals the organized camp or campground complies with these rules and regulations

3.4 Suspension of Permit.

The Department may suspend any permit to operate an organized camp or campground if:

- (a) The holder of the permit does not comply with the provisions and requirements of these Rules and Regulations.
- (b) The operation of the facility does not comply with the provisions and requirements of these Rules and Regulations.
- (c) The operation of the organized camp or campground otherwise constitutes a substantial hazard to public health.

3.5 Revocation of Permit.

The Department may revoke any permit to operate an organized camp or campground if:

- (a) Serious or repeated violations of any provisions of these rules and regulations continue

or

- (b) Interference of a Department representative(s) in the performance of their duties occurs.

3.6 Scheduling of Hearings.

Whenever the Department takes steps to revoke or suspend a permit, the holder of the permit shall be notified in writing. The notice shall indicate a particular day and time when the revocation or suspension hearing shall take place. Should the hearing officer determine that the permit shall be revoked or suspended following the hearing, the organized camp or campground shall cease operations in accordance with such adjudication. The Department may terminate the suspension or revocation and permit the resumption of operation when the violations and notice are corrected.

3.7 Imminent Health Hazard.

Nothing in this regulation shall prevent the Department from ordering an organized camp or campground to close and cease operations if an imminent health hazard exists, such as lack of water, a contaminated water supply or a sewage backup in a restroom/bathhouse, laundry building, kitchen or food store.

SECTION FOUR - PLAN REVIEW

4.1 Submission of Plans.

Whenever an organized camp or campground is to be constructed or extensively remodeled or whenever an existing facility is to be converted for use as an organized camp or campground, properly prepared plans and specifications for such construction, remodeling or conversion shall be submitted to the Department for review and approval. No construction may begin prior to plan approval by this Department.

4.2 Required Plan Information.

The plans and specifications shall include, but not be limited to, information relating to the grounds, buildings, equipment, sewage disposal, water supply including all plumbing, refuse disposal, vector control and any other information as may be required by the Department.

SECTION FIVE - WATER SUPPLY

5.1 Potable Water Supply Required.

Enough potable water for the needs of the organized camp or campground shall be provided from a source or sources constructed and operated in accordance with the Department's standards and the Pennsylvania Safe Drinking Water Act. Those facilities not deemed to be a public water supply under the Safe Drinking Water Act shall either comply with Safe Drinking Water Act monitoring and sampling requirements or must install and maintain permanent and properly designed chlorine disinfection with 20 minute retention time on the water supply. All water used in organized camps or campgrounds must meet the maximum contaminant levels (MCL) as set forth by the Safe Drinking Water Act.

5.2 Water Under Pressure.

Water under pressure at the required temperature (hot and cold) shall be provided to all fixtures at the toilet, shower and handwashing facilities and equipment that uses water.

5.3 Backflow Prevention.

The potable water supply shall be installed to preclude the possibility of backflow. Devices shall be installed to protect against backflow and back siphonage at all fixtures and equipment where an air gap at least twice the diameter of the water supply inlet is not provided between the inlet and the fixture's flood level rim. No hose shall be attached to a faucet unless a backflow prevention device is installed.

5.4 Requirement for New Source.

No new source or sources of water may be developed for an organized camp or campground until the following conditions are met:

- (a) The site location for the source(s) is verified and approved by the Department.
- (b) Water supply construction meets standards set forth by the Department and the Safe Drinking Water Act.
- (c) The water supply is tested and analyzed for all parameters in accordance with the new source sampling matrix under the Safe Drinking Water Act and all parameters are found to be within acceptable limits and do not exceed the maximum contaminant level (MCL) as established by the Safe Drinking Water Act.

SECTION SIX - PLUMBING

6.1 Required Plumbing.

Plumbing shall be so sized, installed and maintained according to national, state and local plumbing codes. It shall be so sized to carry adequate quantities of water to required locations throughout the organized camp or campground, to prevent contamination of the water supply, to properly convey sewage and liquid wastes from the camp or campground facilities to the sewage system and so as not to create an unsanitary condition or public health nuisance.

6.2 Cross Connections.

There shall be no cross connections between the potable water supply and any other non-potable system containing:

- (a) Water of unknown or questionable origin
- (b) Contaminating or polluting substances

If a non-potable water system is permitted for purposes such as air-conditioning, equipment cooling and fire protection, the non-potable water system must not contact, directly or indirectly, any potable water, food, equipment or similar items that use water. The piping of any non-potable water system shall be durably identified so that it is readily distinguishable from piping that carries potable water.

SECTION SEVEN-SEWAGE DISPOSAL

7.1 Approved Sewage Disposal.

All sewage disposal systems serving an organized camp or campground shall be approved by the Department. All sewage, including liquid waste, shall be disposed of by a public sewerage system or by a sewage disposal system constructed, maintained and operated according to the Department's sewage and public health nuisance regulations. If an approved public sewer is available, it shall be used.

7.2 Graywater Connections.

All sewage waste discharge lines, including Graywater (i.e. kitchen and laundry sink wastes) from any trailers must be connected to the sewage system while situated on a site at the campground and not allowed to discharge directly onto the surface of the ground or into unapproved sewage disposal systems.

SECTION EIGHT-SANITARY STATIONS

8.1 Sanitary Station Requirements.

Organized camp or campground operations which provide camping sites for trailers shall provide sanitary stations in order that the removal and disposing of sewage, including liquid waste, from trailer holding tanks is accomplished in a sanitary manner. At no time shall campers be allowed to discharge sewage, including liquid waste and grey water generated from sinks, from hoses directly or indirectly onto the surface of the ground.

8.2 Number of Sanitary Stations Required.

Each organized camp or campground shall provide a sanitary station in the ratio of one for every 100 trailer spaces or fractional part thereof.

8.3 Sanitary Station Construction.

A sanitary station shall consist of as a minimum; a four inch sewer pipe, connected to an approved sewage disposal system, surrounded at the inlet end by a concrete apron sloped to the drain, and provided with a suitable rodent proof and insect proof cover; and a water outlet with the necessary appurtenances and connected to a water supply to permit wash down of the immediate adjacent areas after each use.

There shall be a visible air gap or backflow/back siphonage device on the water supply at this location. No hose may be connected at this location without a backflow or back siphonage device.

8.4 Water Outlet Restrictions.

Each water outlet used for wash down purposes at sanitary stations must conspicuously display at all times a sign stating;

"Notice, this water is for flushing and cleaning purposes only and not for human consumption."

SECTION NINE - TOILET AND HANDWASHING FACILITIES

9.1 Toilet Facility Requirements.

All organized camps and campgrounds shall provide toilet facilities on the premises for the public which are separate for each sex. Toilet and lavatory fixtures shall be provided in a ratio indicated in Tables 1 and 2 for all organized camps and campgrounds. All toilet and lavatory fixtures shall be of a sanitary design and easily cleanable.

Toilet facilities, including rooms and fixtures, shall be kept in a clean condition, in good repair and shall meet the following requirements:

- (a) The doors of all toilet rooms shall be self closing.
- (b) All toilet rooms shall be adequately vented to the outside.
- (c) Toilet tissue shall be provided.
- (d) Easily cleanable receptacles shall be provided for waste materials.
- (e) Waste Receptacles in toilet rooms for women shall be covered.

TABLE 1. ORGANIZED CAMPS*

Number of Urinals** Persons	Number of Toilet Seats		Number of Lavatories		Number of
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
1-20	1	2	1	2	1
Each additional 20 Persons	+1	+1***	+1	+1	+1

* Organized camps which do not provide overnight lodging and serve a minimum of one meal per day shall not be subject to these minimum number of facilities but shall provide toilet and lavatory facilities as deemed adequate by the Department.

** Urinals for males may be provided in lieu of toilet seats for not more than 1/3 of required number of toilet seats.

*** Urinals specifically designed for females may also be provided in lieu of toilet seats, but for not more than 1/3 of the required number of toilet seats.

TABLE 2. CAMPGROUNDS*

Number of Tent or Trailer Spaces	Number of Toilet Seats		Number of Lavatories		Number of Urinals
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male
1 - 15	1	1	1	1	1
16 - 30	1	2	2	2	1
31 - 45	2	2	3	3	
46 - 60	2	3**	3	3	2
61 - 80	3	4**	4	4	2
81 - 100	3	4**	4	4	2

* These facilities are in addition to the requirements for Sanitary Stations in campgrounds.

** Urinals specifically designed for females may also be provided in lieu of toilet seats, but for not more than 1/3 of the required number of toilet seats.

For campgrounds having more than 100 tent or trailer spaces there shall be provided 1 additional toilet seat and lavatory for each sex per each additional 100 tent or trailer spaces or fractional part thereof.

9.2 Lavatories and Showers.

At all lavatories and showers in new and existing organized camps and campgrounds where campers do not provide their own soap and individual towels, soap and clean single service towels shall be provided. The use of a common towel is prohibited.

SECTION TEN - GARBAGE AND REFUSE STORAGE, COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

10.1 Storage of Garbage and Refuse.

All garbage and refuse containing food wastes shall be kept in durable, easily cleanable, leak-proof, insect and rodent proof, non-absorbant, rust and corrosion resistant containers which are provided with tight fitting, lids, doors or covers. There shall be a sufficient number of containers to hold all the garbage and refuse that accumulates. Containers stored outside, including dumpsters and compactors, shall be kept covered when not in actual use. Garbage and refuse shall be placed in tight plastic bags prior to placement in outside dumpsters or containers to minimize insect and rodent problems. All other refuse shall be stored in containers, rooms or areas of sufficient number and size in a manner so as to prevent rodent and/or insect problems and create a public nuisance.

10.2 Container Cleaning Facilities.

Adequate and suitable cleaning facilities shall be provided and used for washing and cleaning containers. Soiled containers, rooms or areas shall be thoroughly cleaned at a frequency to prevent insect and rodent attraction.

10.3 Collection of Garbage and Refuse.

The collection of all garbage and refuse shall be conducted often enough to prevent the development of odor, the attraction of insects and rodents, and the accumulation of large amounts of garbage and refuse in excess of the storage capacity of the organized camp or campground.

SECTION ELEVEN - VECTOR CONTROL

Effective measures intended to control the presence of rodents, flies, cockroaches, and other insects or vectors on the premises shall be utilized. Pesticide application, when necessary, shall be conducted by a certified pest control applicator/operator and in accordance with the pesticide label. The premises shall be kept in such condition as to eliminate the harborage, food and water conditions conducive to insect, rodent or other vector infestations.

SECTION TWELVE - FOOD ESTABLISHMENT SANITATION

Whenever food service is provided, as in an organized camp kitchen, the food service facilities and all attached operations shall comply with the Bucks County Department of Health Rules and Regulations for Conducting and Operating Food Establishments. A separate food license will not be required. When a retail type food store (camp or campground store) is operated on the premises of an organized camp or campground, it shall also comply with the Bucks County Department of Health Rules and Regulations for Conducting and Operating Food Establishments. The operator of the store must obtain a valid and separate food license for this food establishment.

SECTION THIRTEEN - PUBLIC SWIMMING AND BATHING PLACES

The construction, modification, maintenance and operation of any bathing place in an organized camp or campground shall be subject to the provisions of the "Public Bathing Law", the Act of June 23, 1931, P.L. 399 and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources Title 25 Chapter 193 Rules and Regulations for Public Swimming and Bathing Places adopted pursuant thereto. The bathing place shall be operated under a valid Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Resources Public Bathing Place Permit.

SECTION FOURTEEN - VARIANCES

The Department may waive compliance with one or more provisions of these regulations for specific events as long as the lives and health of the public or any persons on the premises will not be adversely affected thereby.

SECTION FIFTEEN - SEVERABILITY

If any section, sub-section, paragraph, clause or provision of these rules and regulations shall be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the Rules and Regulations as a whole or any part thereof. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the Bucks County Department of Health, The Bucks County Board of Health, and the Bucks County Commissioners that the remainder of the rules and regulations would have been enacted if such invalid section had not been enacted and that it is their intention and desire that the remaining portion of the rules and regulations remain in effect.

SECTION SIXTEEN - PENALTY PROVISIONS

16.1 Summary Offenses.

Summary Offenses - Any person who violates any of the provisions of these Rules and Regulations of the Bucks County Department of Health, or who interferes with a health director or any other agent of the Bucks County Department of Health in the discharge of his or her official duties, shall, for the first offense, upon conviction thereof in a summary proceeding before a district justice of Bucks County wherein said offense was committed, be sentenced to pay the costs of prosecution and a fine of not less than Thirty Dollars (\$30) nor more than Three Hundred Dollars (\$300) and, in default thereof, to undergo imprisonment of not less than 10 days nor more than 30 days.

16.2 Misdemeanors.

Misdemeanors - Any person who violates any of the provisions of these Rules and Regulations of the Bucks County Department of Health, or who interferes with a health director or any other agent of the Bucks County Department of Health in the discharge of his or her official duties, convicted of a second or subsequent offense, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) nor more than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) or to undergo imprisonment not exceeding one (1) year, or both.

16.3 Separate Offenses.

Separate Offenses - For the purpose of this section, violations on separate days shall be considered separate offenses.

16.4 Injunctions.

Injunctions - The Bucks County Department of Health may seek to enjoin violations of these rules and regulations or may proceed in any court of law or equity to obtain any additional and cumulative remedies to abate any violation under these rules and regulations. Nothing in these rules and regulations shall in any way alter rights or action or remedies now or hereafter existing in equity, or under the common law or statutory law, criminal or civil.

Approved Bucks County Board of Health:

June 10, 1993

Approved Bucks County Board of Commissioners:

September 9, 1993

Effective Date:

October 1, 1993