

**ARTICLE 19 v3  
CAMPGROUNDS**

**1. Statement of Purpose:**

These provisions are intended to allow Campgrounds as an accessory use to a Principal Residential Use in a manner that complies with this Ordinance to maximize compatibility with surrounding land uses, avoid health and safety hazards, protect environmental and aesthetic resources, minimize demands on public services, not cause significant disruption to others who either live in or use adjacent areas, and protect the rural qualities of the community

**2. Adherence to New Hampshire Laws, Statutes and Regulations:**

All Campgrounds must adhere to all applicable laws, rules, and ordinances, including but not limited to RSA chapter 216-I, RSA chapter 227-L, and RSA chapter 485-A. If any provision of this Ordinance differs or conflicts with any other provision of the Zoning Ordinance or any other applicable law, rule, or ordinance, the provision imposing the greater restriction or more stringent standard shall be controlling.

**3. Definitions:**

The definitions set forth in RSA 216-I:1, as that statute may be amended, shall apply to this Ordinance.

**4. Zoning Districts Where Allowed & Town Approvals:**

Campgrounds are permitted in the Agricultural/Conservation, Rural, or Natural Resource districts as an accessory use to a Principal Residential Use where the property owner resides in the residence, provided the property owner obtains a Special Exception from the Zoning Board of Adjustment and Site Plan Approval from the Planning Board.

**5. Campground Area & Maximum Number of Campsites and Occupants:**

A Campground may only be located on a Property with at least ten acres of land. The maximum number of campsites in a campground shall not exceed the following:

<i>Area of Property</i>	<i>Maximum Number of Campsites</i>
Less than 10 Acres	N/A
10 acres up to 20 acres	2 Campsites
20 acres up to 30 acres	4 Campsites
30 or more acres	6 Campsites

**6. Number of Occupants:**

No more than six people may occupy each Campsite each night.

**7. Individual Campsite Size:**

Each Campsite shall be clearly marked and have a minimum of 600 square feet for Tent sites or 1,000 square feet for Recreational Vehicle or Recreational Camping Cabin sites. The property owner must maintain an accurate, updated map showing Campsite

40 locations and numbers and provide a copy of this map to the Town's Police Department  
41 and Fire Department.

42 **8. Setbacks:**

43 No individual Campsite shall be located within 200 feet of a public way, land boundary,  
44 or stream, pond, lake, or other wetlands. All structures on the Property must conform to  
45 the Zoning Ordinance's setback requirements. See Section 5.2(B).

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47 The Planning Board may impose more restrictive setback requirements based upon the  
48 nature and use of the Property under consideration and the anticipated impacts on  
49 neighboring properties and the public. The Planning Board may impose additional  
50 screening requirements if the setback area does not provide sufficient natural  
51 screening.

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53 **9. Impact Limitations:**

54 The Zoning Board of Adjustment and Planning Board may impose additional or more  
55 restrictive requirements regarding number, type, and area of Campsites, maximum  
56 occupancy of Campsites, and any other requirement that is reasonably necessary to  
57 maximize compatibility with surrounding land uses, to avoid health and safety hazards  
58 to occupants or the public, to protect environmental and aesthetic resources, to  
59 minimize demand on public services, to prevent significant disruption of others who live  
60 in or use adjacent properties, or to otherwise protect the rural qualities of the Town.

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62 **10. Access and Fire Safety:**

63 A Campground shall have adequate, safe vehicular access from a public highway,  
64 including sufficient sight distances for vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians to safely enter  
65 and exit the Campground. In determining whether the Campground has adequate  
66 vehicular access, the Zoning Board of Adjustment and Planning Board may consider the  
67 residential density and road conditions along the public highways that provide access to  
68 the Campground. The Zoning Board of Adjustment or Planning Board may require the  
69 Applicant to obtain a traffic impact study to assess traffic safety concerns and the need  
70 for capital improvements. The Planning Board may assess impact fees in accordance  
71 with Article 15 of the Zoning Ordinance.

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73 Campgrounds that utilize access from a State-owned highway must obtain applicable  
74 permits from New Hampshire Department of Transportation to authorize the new or  
75 changed use.

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77 A Campground shall have adequate, off-highway parking for each campsite.

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79 The Campground's location, arrangement, access roads, water supplies, fire  
80 suppression devices, and evacuation plan shall meet the approval of the Chief of the  
81 Fire Department or other authority responsible for providing the necessary fire  
82 protection services.

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84        **11. Operational Requirements:**

85        The Campground shall be seasonal, with an annual operation period that starts no  
86        earlier than March 21 and ends no later than November 15. The Campground must  
87        provide snow removal as necessary to ensure occupants and emergency services can  
88        safely access the Campground.

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90        No site shall be used as a year-round residence. No structures shall be added to any  
91        campsite or vehicle such as roofs, storage sheds, patios, carports or other  
92        improvements. Recreational vehicles shall be fully registered at all times and shall not  
93        be permitted to deteriorate to a state of repair that would prevent a return to highway  
94        use. All recreational vehicles must be removed from all Campsites by November 16.

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96        All persons must register with the Campground as required under RSA chapter 216-I  
97        upon entering a Campground. The Campground must make this Register open to  
98        inspection by local and state law enforcement authorities, local and state fire officials,  
99        and local code enforcement officials.

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101        Campgrounds shall not allow occupants to use off-highway recreational vehicles on the  
102        Property.

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104        **12. Water and Sewage Approval:**

105        The Campground must provide a sufficient, DES-approved Water Supply that is capable  
106        of servicing every Campsite and that conforms to the requirements of RSA chapter 216-  
107        I and all other applicable laws and regulations. The Campground must provide a  
108        sufficient DES-approved sewage disposal system that is capable of servicing every  
109        Campsite and that conforms to the requirements of RSA chapter 216-I and all other  
110        applicable laws and regulations.

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112        **13. Permits:**

113        The Campground owner shall obtain an annual Fire Permit from the Fire Department  
114        that upon inspection meets the requirements of the Town, RSA chapter 227-L, and all  
115        other applicable laws, rules, and ordinances.

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117        **14. Administrative and Enforcement Procedures:**

118        The Town may enforce violations of this Ordinance as set forth in RSA chapter 676  
119        and/or by pursuing any other remedy available at law or equity.

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121        **15. Partial Exceptions:**

122        This Ordinance shall not be construed to prohibit the owner-occupant of a residence  
123        served by adequate sanitary facilities from accommodating, without compensation,  
124        occasional overnight guests in tents, recreational vehicles, or campers placed  
125        temporarily within the property of such residence.

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129 **Other changes other places in Zoning Ordinance:**

130 Other changes to the Canterbury Zoning Ordinance as a result of adopting the above  
131 shall be:

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133 1. **Section 5.2(6):** Add “Campgrounds must additionally conform to the setback  
134 requirements set forth in Article 19.”

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136 2. **Table of Uses:**

137  
138 A. Change “Travel trailer parks for temporary dwelling but not for permanent  
139 residence” from [SE SE SE - - - - -] to [- - - - -].

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141 B. Change “Commercial campgrounds” [SE SE - - - - -] to “Commercial  
142 campgrounds-principal use” [- - - - -].

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144 C. Add “Commercial campground-accessory use to single family dwelling principal  
145 residential use: [SE SE - - - - SE -]

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