

From: Buker, Dawn <DAWN.R.BUKER@des.nh.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 10:11 AM
To: 'Brendan O'Donnell' <bodonnell@dtclawyers.com>
Cc: Canterbury Planning Board <planningboard@canterbury-nh.org>
Subject: RE: campground septic questions

Good morning,

As a follow up to our phone conversation last week, I am providing the statutes and rules that pertain to state regulations & laws regarding campgrounds for your records.

[216-I:1 Definition](#)

VII. "Recreational campground or camping park" means a parcel of land on which 2 or more campsites are occupied or are intended for temporary occupancy for recreational dwelling purposes only, and not for permanent year-round residency, excluding recreation camps as defined in RSA 170-E:55, I.

Under the definition of subdivision in the statute, 2 or more rented sites require state subdivision approval.

[485-A:2 Definitions](#)

XIII. "Subdivision" means the division of a tract or parcel of land into 2 or more lots, tracts, or parcels for the purpose, whether immediate or future, of sale, **rent**, lease, building development...

The requirement for state subdivision approval from the NHDES Subsurface Systems Bureau is not contingent on having a septic system for disposal of sanitary waste. Subdivision approval is required for all Recreational Campgrounds as defined in Chapter 216 whether or not a septic system is proposed.

CHAPTER Env-Wq 1000 SUBDIVISIONS; INDIVIDUAL SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEMS requires septic system installation based on the length of time each site is utilized. Sites where an RV can occupy the same site for 3 consecutive weeks or more require approval and installation of a state approved septic system. Sites that are used for more than 9 months out of the year are considered year round residences and have an increased size requirement for the effluent disposal area (leach field).

There is also a provision in the rules for sites that do not have water provided to the site to utilize other means of sanitary waste disposal.

Env-Wq 1005.10 Recreational Campgrounds.

(a) Each site within a recreational campground at which pressurized potable water hook-ups are available and which is used by the same recreational vehicle (RV) for a period of more than 3 consecutive weeks but not on a year-round basis shall be provided with an on-site sewage collection system, which shall convey the sanitary wastes from the RV to either an on-lot or off-lot ISDS approved by the department in accordance with these rules.

(b) Any site within a recreational campground that is intended for year-round use shall meet the requirements of Env-Wq 1008.03 for a single-family residence.

(c) Each site within a recreational campground at which pressurized potable water hook-ups are available and which is used by the same RV for a period of 3 consecutive weeks or less, shall not require an on-site sewage collection system, provided that sanitary service stations, sanitary service vehicles, and/or rest rooms are available at the campground to handle the disposal of all wastewater.

(d) At sites where no pressurized water is provided, the campground shall provide means

of sanitary waste disposal such as sanitary service stations, sanitary service vehicles, or rest rooms, or any combination thereof.

(e) Subdivision plans for recreational campgrounds shall be submitted as specified in EnvWq 1003.

Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have additional questions.

Dawn

Dawn Buker, Supervisor Design Review
Subsurface Systems Bureau, Land Resources Management
Water Division, NH Department of Environmental Services
P.O. Box 95
Concord, NH 03302-0095
Phone: (603) 271-1449
Email: Dawn.Buker@des.nh.gov