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## **Environmental Guidelines for the Operation of Temporary Commercial Tent Camps**

- **Spill Reporting**
- **Onsite Sewage Disposal**
- **Solid Waste Handling**
- **Petroleum Handling and Storage**

## **Definition**

These types of camps include Hunting, Camping, Fishing Camps, Eco-Tourism / Photography Camps, Outfitting Camps, or other types of non-permanently based camps. These guidelines are not intended to apply to Full Service Lodges or permanently based Outcamps. The following guidelines cover aspects of spill reporting, sewage and greywater disposal, petroleum product handling, solid waste disposal. The requirements in this document are administered by the Environmental Compliance and Enforcement branch of Conservation and Water Stewardship. To obtain all of the necessary permits and approvals for your operation you may also need to contact other agencies such as Public Health and the Office of Drinking Water. Contact information for other departments in the provincial government may be found at:

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/index.html>

## **Environment Act & Regulations**

### **A. Spill Reporting – *The Environment Act* (E125 Sec. 30.1)**

- i) Persons responsible for the unauthorized release of a pollutant into the environment have a legal obligation to report the spill.
- ii) Persons responsible for a pollutant that has been or will imminently be released into the environment also have a legal obligation to report the incident.

**To report a spill, call the Emergency Response Line at (204) 944-4888.**

### **B. Sewage Disposal - *Onsite Wastewater Management Systems Regulation* (MR 83/2003)**

**Any new installation, modification or repairs to an existing onsite wastewater management system requires a proposal to be registered with the regional office of Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship. Authorization to proceed with the work proposed must be received from an Environment Officer before construction begins.**

#### **i) Outside Toilets (Pit Privies)**

The building is to be of sound construction, vented, fly proof and sanitary. A pit privy must be at least 6m from any habitable building and must be at least 30m from surface water. The pit shall be of adequate depth and located where the soil depth, measured from the bottom of the pit is a minimum of 1 m from the bedrock or normal high water table.

To decommission a pit privy, the pit privy holes must be covered over with earth.

ii) **Greywater Pit (wash, bath, dish water)**

Greywater is not permitted to be discharged onto the surface of the ground. Greywater pits are only permitted when the camp is not serviced by a water system under pressure. A greywater pit must be located a minimum of 30 m from surface water. The depth of the pit must be shallow and the bottom of the pit must be a minimum of 1 metre from the bedrock or high water table. The pit should remain covered when not in use.

To decommission a greywater pit, the greywater pit must be covered over with earth.

For more information on wastewater disposal please visit the website at: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/envprograms/wastewater/index.html>

**C. Solid Waste Handling - Waste Disposal Grounds Regulation (MR 150/91)**

All solid wastes, (garbage, litter, refuse) generated during a stay at a tent camp are to be collected in weatherproof / rodent-proof containers and returned to the point of departure for suitable disposal at a permitted waste disposal facility.

For more information on solid waste handling please visit the website at: <http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/envprograms/swm/index.html>

## **Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act Regulations**

**A. Petroleum Product Handling & Storage - Storage and Handling of Petroleum Products and Allied Products Regulation (MR 188/2001)**

**Aboveground Petroleum Product Storage**

All storage of petroleum product and allied product in containers 230L and greater must be in compliance with the *Storage and Handling of Petroleum Products and Allied Products Regulation*, MR 188/2001 (the Regulation) pursuant to the *Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act*.

Aboveground tanks greater than 230 L and less than 5000 L are subject to partial application of the Regulation. Section 3 of the Regulation lists the sections which apply to aboveground storage tank systems with a total capacity of less than 5000L. Aboveground tanks must be ULC certified and must have approved secondary containment.

Temporary tent camps may typically store small volumes of petroleum product. Containers 230 L or less, used to store flammable liquids or combustible liquids must meet CSA or ULC specifications as indicated in the *National Fire Code of Canada*.

Containers storing petroleum product should be properly labelled and securely stored away from other containers storing chemicals or fertilizer products to minimize fire hazards.

### **Petroleum Storage (Aboveground and Underground Facilities)**

- i) No person shall directly or indirectly contaminate the soil or any body of water by causing or permitting leakage from a storage tank system or by causing or permitting the dumping, depositing, dropping, throwing, discarding, or leaving of gasoline or associated product.
- ii) All fuel transfers must be supervised at all times so that product transfer can be immediately stopped if required.
- iii) All spills or leaks involving 100 litres or more must be reported to the Emergency Response Line at (204) 944-4888. Steps must be taken immediately to contain the spill and restore the environment to its original state.

For more information on petroleum storage and handling please visit our website at <http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/envprograms/psp>

### **Contact Information**

If you have questions or concerns regarding these guidelines, please follow the link below for the contact information for an Environment Officer in your area.

<http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/ece/contact.html>

### **Responsibility**

This document is a guideline only; the Province of Manitoba assumes no legal liability. The owner / operator of the facility must assume responsibility for the condition of the facility and equipment and its operation and must ensure that all applicable legislation is followed.