



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY
LANSING



PHILLIP D. ROOS
DIRECTOR

TO: Campgrounds & Local Health Departments

FROM: Campground Program, Environmental Health Section
Drinking Water and Environmental Health Division

DATE: October 10, 2024

SUBJECT: Campground Program Updates

Please welcome Kisha Bayes as the new Campground Program Administrator following Sarah Rottiers departure from the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), Campground Program. Kisha is looking forward to the upcoming 2025 season and working with you all!

We have a new inbox! Campgrounds and Local Health Departments can now reach the Campground Program by email at EGLE-DWEHD-CampgroundProgram@Michigan.gov.

ALERT There has been a rise in issues related to permanent residency within campgrounds. Please be aware, **MCL 333.12501a, Section 12501** of Act 368, defines a campground, in part, as *“a parcel or tract of land under the control of a person in which sites are offered for the use of the public or members of an organization, either free of charge or for a fee, for the establishment of **temporary** living quarters...”* Please see the enclosed letter from the Enforcement Unit for further details.

As EGLE transitions to electronic submissions, we strongly encourage Campground Owners to create a MiLogin for Business account and then **request an account to MiEHDWIS**. The system allows users to submit documents directly to EGLE for review as well as has direct messaging to EGLE staff right on a submission activity. Coming next year, there will be the ability to pay for invoices and view license and permit documents as soon as they are issued by EGLE. For more information on how to sign up for an account, please scan the QR code on the flyer in this packet or visit Michigan.gov/MiEHDWIS.

For more information regarding the Campground Program, please visit our website at Michigan.gov/EGLECampgrounds, or contact Kisha Bayes by phone at 517-282-4032, or by email at EGLE-DWEHD-CampgroundProgram@Michigan.gov.

GET STARTED WITH MiEHDWIS

You can upload and submit applications, construction plans, and other documents directly to EGLE with the MiEHDWIS system.

More features and new communication tools will be available as MiEHDWIS continues to expand. Users can look forward to viewing licenses and paying invoices directly in MiEHDWIS with future system releases and updates.

VISIT Michigan.gov/MiEHDWIS TO GET STARTED!

VISIT OUR WEBPAGE TO FIND MORE INFORMATION

- Learn about MiEHDWIS.
- Get help from **Knowledge Base Articles and FAQs**.
- Watch **tutorial videos** on how to upload documents.

REQUEST ACCESS SIGN UP TO TAKE THE FIRST STEPS

- Sign up for a **MiLogin for Business** account.
- Request access to MiEHDWIS.
- Wait for a System Administrator to grant you access.

SUBMIT FILES/REQUESTS UPLOAD DIRECTLY TO EGLE

- Submit documents and files, such as receipts, construction permit applications, and more directly to EGLE.



Please remember to **only send documentation once**. Documents submitted through MiEHDWIS do not need to be followed up by sending an email or paper copy in the mail.

If you have questions, please reach out to our helpdesk:
EGLE-MiEHDWIS@Michigan.gov



Michigan.gov/MiEHDWIS



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To request this material in an alternative format, contact EGLE-Accessibility@Michigan.gov or call 800-662-9278.

October 2024



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TO: Campgrounds and Local Health Departments

FROM: Matthew Allen, REHS, Enforcement Unit Supervisor
Drinking Water and Environmental Health Division

DATE: October 14, 2024

SUBJECT: Permanent Residency in Campgrounds

Recently, the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy's (EGLE) Drinking Water and Environmental Health Division (DWEHD) received reports of individuals allegedly residing in licensed campgrounds on a year-round or permanent basis. As a reminder, campgrounds in the state of Michigan are regulated under Part 125, Campgrounds, Public Health Code, 1978 PA 368, as amended (Act 368), and the administrative rules promulgated under Part 125 (R 325.1551 to R 325.1599).

MCL 333.12501a, Section 12501 of Act 368, defines a campground, in part, as “a *parcel or tract of land under the control of a person in which sites are offered for the use of the public or members of an organization, either free of charge or for a fee, for the establishment of **temporary** living quarters...*”

Since campgrounds are only intended to be used as temporary living quarters, it is unlawful to reside in a campground on a permanent or long-term basis. Please be advised that the presence of permanent residents in a campground is grounds for EGLE to revoke or deny renewal of that campground's license to operate. Without a current license, any use of the campground constitutes illegal operation under Part 125 of Act 368.

MCL 333.12506(1), Section 12506 of Act 368 states in part, “A *person shall not operate a campground without a campground license issued by the department, its agency or representative, or a representative of a designated local health department.*”

R 333.12516 of the administrative rules promulgated under Part 125 of Act 368 states:

“(1) A person who violates sections 12501 to 12515 is guilty of a misdemeanor.

“(2) Notwithstanding the existence of any other remedy, the department, its agent or representative, or a representative of a designated local health department may maintain an action in the name of the state for an injunction against a person to restrain or prevent the construction, enlargement, or alteration of a campground without a permit, or the operation or conduct of a campground without a license.”

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Please be further advised that continued operation of a campground whose license is not renewed or has been revoked may result in escalated enforcement action by EGLE, including, but not limited to criminal charges, injunction, or other criminal or civil penalties.

EGLE will be releasing further guidance on permanent residency, but as a general guideline, one or more of the following may be determined to be permanent residency for purposes of enforcement:

- Rents received/individual(s) occupying the campground for 180 days or more in a calendar year.
- Driver's license listing campground address as home address.
- Receiving bills or other mail at the campground address.
- Voter registration listing the campground as home address.
- Children enrolled in local school district/school bus service being provided to the campground.
- Establishment of utility services such as phone or internet to the campsite.

The above list is not all-inclusive. Likewise, the presence of one of these factors (with the exception of 180-day occupancy) does not necessarily indicate permanent residency. For instance, a seasonal resident may have mail temporarily forwarded to the campsite for a period of time without being considered a permanent resident. If you have a question as to whether you may have permanent residents at your campground, or for any other questions regarding this notification, please contact the Campground Program at 517-282-4032 or by email at EGLE-DWEHD-CampgroundProgram@Michigan.gov for more guidance.

Please note that this notice applies only to EGLE campground licensure. Campgrounds and permanent residents may also be subject to other considerations such as zoning, fire code, tax implications, and building codes, among others. Please refer to the coming guidance for more information.