

10-144 DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

BUREAU OF HEALTH

Chapter 214: MASS GATHERING RULES AND INFORMATIONAL GUIDELINES

SUMMARY: These rules delineate the procedure for submitting application for permits for mass outdoor gatherings and the information required in said applications.

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

A. Definitions

1. Commissioner: The Commissioner of Human Services.
2. Department: The Department of Human Services.
3. Mass Gathering Area: Any place maintained, operated or used for a mass gathering, except an established permanent stadium, athletic field, arena, auditorium, coliseum, fairground, or other similar permanent places of assembly.
4. Mass outdoor gathering: For the purpose of these rules, a mass outdoor gathering shall be deemed to mean any gathering held outdoors with the intent to attract the continued attendance of 2,000 or more persons for 12 or more hours.
5. Operator: The person responsible for managing the mass gathering area. In the event that no manager exists, the owner, or in the event of his unavailability, the lessee of the ground encompassing the mass gathering area, shall be deemed to be the "operator" under these regulations.
6. Person: An individual, group of individuals, association, partnership or corporation, firm or company.
7. Refuse: All combustible and non combustible, putrescible or nonputrescible solid or liquid waste.

B. Permit Application

1. A written application for permit shall be received by the Department at least thirty (30) days in advance of the proposed mass gatherings.

The applicant shall place a notice, approved by the Department, in the newspaper serving the area where the mass gathering is proposed to be held, thirty (30) days in advance of the date of the mass gathering unless a lesser time is authorized by the Department. The notice informs the public of the applicant's intention to hold a mass gathering, and invites public comments to be addressed to the Department.

2. Provisions. The following shall be included with the application for permit:
 - a. An outline map of the area to be used showing the location of all proposed toilets to be used, lavatory and bathing facilities, water supply sources, areas of assemblage, camping areas, food service areas, ingress and egress of pedestrian and vehicular traffic, egress roads, refuse disposal and collection facilities.
 - b. Detailed drawings of toilet facilities, sewage disposal system, lavatory and bathing facilities, and water supply system.
 - c. Size of area to be used.
 - d. An anticipated attendance figure and dates and hours which mass gathering will be held.
 - e. Provisions for preventing people in excess of maximum permissible number from gaining access to mass gathering area.
3. Detailed description of the water supply to be used including, but not necessarily limited to:
 - a. The source and its treatment and protection from pollution.
 - b. For water distributed under pressure, the operating pressures to all fixtures and the rate of delivery in gallons per person per day.
 - c. Where water is not available under pressure, and non-water carriage toilets are used, the gallons of water per person per day to be provided for drinking and washing purposes.
 - d. Source of transported water.
 - e. Manner of storage and dispensing of transported water.
4. Detailed description of excreta and liquid waste disposal facilities, including but not necessarily limited to:
 - a. Facilities to be provided.
 - b. Maintenance.
 - c. If public sewer system available, whether all plumbing fixtures and building sewers shall be connected thereto.
5. Detailed description of refuse disposal including, but not necessarily limited to:
 - a. Measures to prevent odor, insect, rodent, and other nuisance conditions.

- b. The number and size of refuse containers to be provided.
 - c. Accessibility of refuse containers.
 - d. Frequency of collection of refuse.
 - e. Location of disposal of refuse.
 - f. Plans for cleaning area of refuse following mass gathering.
 - g. For area where cars and recreational vehicles to be parked, number of rubbish disposal facilities per car or recreational vehicle.
6. Detailed description of vermin and vector control.
7. Detailed description of grounds including, but not necessarily limited to:
- a. Illumination - location and light level intensities.
 - b. Size of areas for assemblage, camping and parking.
 - c. Width of service roads.
 - d. Number of parking spaces per person and density per vehicle.
8. Detailed description of sanitary facilities including, but not necessarily limited to:
- a. Number of toilets or urinals per person.
 - b. Construction materials of buildings housing plumbing fixtures.
 - c. Provisions for maintenance and cleaning of fixtures.
 - d. Measures to provide privacy of toilets.
 - e. Identification of water points or drinking fountains.
 - f. Drinking facilities.
 - g. Drainage of waste water.
9. Detailed description of medical facilities and services including, but not necessarily limited to:
- a. Names, positions, and qualifications of medical personnel to be available and a statement whether such personnel will be on site or on call.
 - b. On site facilities and supplies.

- c. On site first aid vehicles.
 - d. Communication systems available.
 - e. Statement whether area hospitals have been advised of gathering.
10. Detailed description of food service activities including, but not necessarily limited to:
- a. Facilities to be provided.
 - b. Statement whether eating places servicing mass gathering are licensed.
11. Detailed description of safety precautions including, but not necessarily limited to:
- a. Electrical system and equipment.
 - b. On site fire prevention equipment.
 - c. Internal and external security control.
 - d. A statement that the respective police and sheriff's department have been notified.
12. Detailed description of noise control including, but not necessarily limited to:
- a. Proximity of closest inhabitant.
 - b. Expected noise level in decibels at perimeters of mass gathering area.
13. Municipal Approval:
- A statement that the mass gathering has municipal approval.

C. Inspection

1. The following shall be available for inspection and testing by the Department.
- a. All private water supplies for mass gathering.
 - b. A copy of the water analysis.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: 22 MRSA section 1601-1602

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 7, 1978

AMENDED DATE: June 19, 1982

EFFECTIVE DATE (ELECTRONIC CONVERSION): May 5, 1996

APPENDIX

1. **GUIDELINES.** The following provisions set out, for informational purposes, standards and conditions that the Department views as optimal. They are illustrative of the factors the Department will be considering in making its determinations as to whether a permit should be issued.
 - A. **Water Supply**
 1. Where water is distributed under pressure for drinking, washing, flushing toilets, and showers, the water supply system should deliver water at normal operating pressures (20 lb. per sq. in. minimum) to all fixtures at a rate of at least 30 gallons per person per day.
 2. Where water is not available under pressure, and non-water carriage toilets are used, at least 3 gallons of water per person per day should be provided for drinking and washing purposes.
 - B. **Refuse Disposal**
 1. One fifty (50) gallon refuse container or its equivalent should be provided for each one hundred (100) persons anticipated.
 2. All refuse should be collected from the mass gathering area at least once each day of the assembly and disposed of in an approved area.
 3. The mass gathering area and immediate surrounding properties should be cleaned of refuse within twenty-four (24) hours following the mass gathering.
 4. Area where cars and recreational vehicles are parked should have rubbish disposal facilities one for every 25 cars or recreational vehicles.
 - C. **Grounds**
 1. The assembly area should be adequately lighted but not unreasonably reflect beyond the assembly area boundaries unless adjacent properties are uninhabited.
 2. Light level intensities should be at least five foot candles.
 3. There should be at least 20 square feet per person at the site for daytime assemblage and at least 40 square feet per person for overnight assemblage.
 - D. **Roads and Parking Space**
 1. Width of service roads should be at least 12 feet for one traffic lane, 24 feet for two traffic lanes, and 7 feet for parallel parking lane.

2. There should be at least one parking space for every four persons and the density should not exceed 100 passenger cars or 30 buses per usable acre.

E. Sanitary Facilities

1. Toilets should be provided at a rate of one (1) for each 150 persons.
2. Urinals and sanistands may substituted for up to one-third (1/3) of the required number of toilets. Twenty-four inches (24") of trough urinals in a men's room shall be considered the equivalent of one urinal or toilet.
3. Sanitary facilities should be conveniently accessible and well identified.
4. Each toilet should have a continuous supply of toilet paper.
5. Service buildings or rooms housing necessary plumbing fixtures, should be constructed of easily cleanable, non-absorbent materials.
6. Separate service buildings or rooms containing sanitary facilities, clearly marked, should be provided for each sex and each toilet room should provided with a self-closing door to insure privacy or the entrance should be screened so that the interior is not visible from the outside.
7. Water points or drinking fountains, should be conveniently accessible and well identified.
8. Common drinking cups should not be used.

F. Medical Facilities

1. Emergency medical services should be provided under the supervision of a licensed physician.
2. A first aid building or tent, with adequate medical supplies, should be available.
3. Emergency first aid vehicles should be available on site during the complete time of mass gathering.
4. A telephone or other two way electronic communication facilities.
5. Operator of mass gathering should contact area hospitals and advise them that a mass gathering will be held and approximate number of people attending.

G. Safety

1. The mass gathering electrical system or electrical equipment should comply with applicable state standards and regulations. (Title 32, Chapter 17 MRSA)
2. Fire prevention equipment should be present at site of mass gathering.

H. Noise Control

1. The sound of the mass gathering should not carry unreasonably beyond the boundaries of the mass gathering area.
2. The noise level at the perimeters of the area should not exceed 70 decibels on the A scale of a sound level meter meeting specifications on the American National Standards Institute unless the mass gathering area is remotely located and surrounding adjacent properties are uninhabited.