

# **ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

## **RULES AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO MOBILE HOME AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLE PARKS**



Effective Date

April 1, 2008

RULES AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO  
MOBILE HOME AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLE PARKS

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AUTHORITY

The following Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Mobile Home and Recreational Vehicle Parks are duly adopted and promulgated by the Arkansas State Board of Health pursuant to the authority expressly conferred by the Laws of the State of Arkansas, including, without limitation, Act 96 of 1913 (Ark. Code Ann. § 20-7-109).

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS

The following terms are defined for the purpose of these Regulations:

- A. **Department:** The Arkansas Department of Health.
- B. **Holding tank:** A tank or device used for the temporary storage of untreated human waste.
- C. **Mobile home:** A transportable, single-family dwelling unit suitable for year-round occupancy and containing the same water supply, waste disposal and electrical conveniences as immobile housing.
- D. **Mobile home park:** A parcel of land for the placement of three (3) or more mobile homes, where services for a fee are provided for the placement and maintenance of mobile homes for residential purposes.
- E. **Mobile home space:** A space or lot in a mobile home park where water and sewer services are provided.
- F. **Service building:** A structure housing toilet, lavatory and other facilities that are necessary to adequately serve the park occupants.

**G. Sanitary station:** A facility used for removing and disposing of wastes from self contained recreational vehicle holding tanks.

**H. Service sink:** A slop sink with a flushing rim for the disposal of liquid wastes from small holding tanks.

**I. Service water:** A sanitary station water supply for the wash-down of sewage holding tanks, that is equipped with a backflow prevention device, air gap supply line, and drain to the sewage disposal system.

**J. Sewage:** All wastes discharging from sanitary conveniences and plumbing fixtures of a domestic nature, exclusive of industrial and commercial wastes.

**K. Sewer connections:** The connection consisting of all pipes, fittings and appurtenances from the drain outlet of the trailer or mobile home to the inlet of the corresponding sewer riser pipe of the sewer system serving the mobile home space.

**L. Sewer riser pipe:** That portion of the sewer line that extends vertically to the ground elevation and terminates at each recreational vehicle or mobile home space.

**M. Recreational vehicle:** Any of the following:

1. **Travel trailer:** A vehicular, portable structure built on a chassis, designed to be used as a temporary dwelling for travel, recreation and vacation uses, permanently identified as a Travel Trailer by the manufacturer of the trailer and, when factory equipped for the road, it shall have a body width not exceeding eight feet, and a body length not exceeding thirty-two (32) feet.

2. **Pick-up coach:** A structure designed to be mounted on a truck chassis for use as a temporary dwelling for travel, recreation and vacation.

3. **Motor-home:** A self-powered, enclosed recreational vehicle dually used as both a vehicle and a temporary or full-time dwelling.

4. **Camping trailer:** A folding or collapsible structure, mounted on wheels and designed for travel, recreation and vacation use.

**N. Dependent recreational vehicle:** A recreational vehicle that is dependent upon a service building for toilet and lavatory facilities.

**O. Self-contained recreational vehicle:** A recreational vehicle that can operate independent of connections to sewer, water and electrical systems. It contains a water- flushed toilet, lavatory, shower and kitchen sink, all of which are connected to water storage and sewage holding tanks located within the recreational vehicle.

**P. Recreational vehicle park:** A parcel of land, for which plans have been approved by the Division of Health, where three or more spaces are occupied or intended for occupancy by recreational vehicles for transient dwelling purposes.

**Q. Recreational vehicle space:** A parcel of land in a recreational vehicle parking area for the placement of a single recreational vehicle and the exclusive use of its occupants.

**R. Water connection:** A connection consisting of all pipes, fittings and appurtenances from the water riser pipe to the water inlet pipe of the distribution system within the recreational vehicle or mobile home.

S. **Water riser pipe:** That portion of the water supply system serving the mobile home or recreational vehicle parking area which extends vertically to the ground elevation and terminates at a designed point at each recreational vehicle or mobile home space.

T. **Watering station:** A facility for supplying the water storage tanks of recreational vehicles with potable water.

U. **Wastewater:** Any sewage containing animal or vegetable matter in suspension or solution, including but not limited to liquid wastes from toilets, kitchens sinks, lavatories, washing machines, and other plumbing fixtures.

## SECTION 2. COMPLIANCE

Any parcel of land in which three or more spaces are occupied or intended for occupancy by recreational vehicles or mobile homes, where placement and/or maintenance services are provided for a fee, whether new or existing, shall be considered a mobile home or recreational vehicle park and shall be in compliance with these Regulations. The owner or operator of the park shall be responsible for compliance with these Regulations. Requests for waivers or exceptions to these regulations will be considered on a case-by-case basis and approval will be at the discretion of the department.

No person, firm, corporation, or association shall begin construction, alteration, repair, or extension of a mobile home or recreational vehicle park without first submitting and receiving approval from the Department. Detailed plans and specifications shall be submitted that include the park layout, the sewage system, the water source and distribution system, all buildings, parking areas, dump stations and the topographical features of the park.

## SECTION 3. ENVIRONMENTAL AND OPEN SPACE REQUIREMENTS

### A. General requirements

Conditions of the soil, groundwater level, drainage and topography shall not create hazards to the property or the health or safety of the occupants. Mobile home parks shall not be subject to unpredictable and/or sudden flooding. Recreational vehicles shall not be permanently connected to recreational vehicle spaces and shall be quickly and easily moved when a flood event is immanent.

### B. Soil and ground cover requirements

Exposed ground surfaces in all parts of every parking area shall be paved, or covered with stone, solid material, or protected with a vegetative growth that is capable of preventing soil erosion and of eliminating objectionable dust.

### C. Required separation between recreational vehicles.

Recreational vehicles shall be separated from each other and from other structures by at least ten (10) feet. Any accessory structure such as attached awnings, carports, or individual storage facilities shall, for purposes of this separation requirement, be considered part of the recreational vehicle.

### D. Required separation between mobile homes

1. Mobile homes shall be separated from each other and from other buildings and structures by at least fifteen (15) feet: **Provided**, That mobile homes placed end-to-end may have a clearance of ten (10) feet where opposing rear walls are staggered.
2. An accessory structure which has a horizontal area exceeding twenty-five (25) square feet, is attached to a mobile home or located within ten (10) feet of its window, and has an opaque top or roof that is higher than the nearest window shall, for purposes of all separation requirements, be considered part of the mobile home.

## SECTION 4. WATER SUPPLY

### A. Quality and source

An adequate supply of water, under pressure, which meets the bacteriological, chemical and physical requirements of the Arkansas State Board of Health Drinking Water Standards, or equivalent, shall be provided in each recreational vehicle and mobile home park.

### B. Individual water riser pipes and connections

1. Individual water riser pipes shall be located within the confined area of the mobile home space at a point where the water connection will approximate a vertical position.
2. Water riser pipes shall extend at least four inches above ground elevation. The water riser pipe shall be at least three-quarter ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ) inch in diameter. The water outlet shall be capped when a mobile home does not occupy the lot.
3. Adequate provisions shall be made to prevent the freezing of service lines, valves and riser pipes. Surface drainage shall be diverted away from the location of the riser pipe.
4. A shut-off valve below the frost line shall be provided near the water riser pipe on each mobile home space.
5. Underground stop and waste valves shall not be installed on any water service line.
6. All water-piping fixtures shall be constructed and maintained in accordance with the current Arkansas State Plumbing Code.

### C. Watering stations

1. Each recreational vehicle shall be provided with one or more easily accessible water supply outlets for filling recreational vehicle water storage tanks. Water supply outlets shall consist of at least a water hydrant and necessary appurtenances and shall be protected against the hazards of backflow and back siphonage.
2. When recreational vehicle spaces are provided with water service, it shall comply with requirements set forth in SECTION 4.

## SECTION 5. SEWAGE DISPOSAL

An adequate, safe, and approved sewage system shall be provided in all mobile home and recreational vehicle parks for the conveying and disposing of all sewage. All sewage shall be disposed of in a public sewer system where one is accessible within three hundred (300) feet. Sewage treatment/disposal systems for mobile home and recreational vehicle parks shall be sized

according to the estimated daily flow requirements as specified in Appendix B of the ***Rules and Regulations Pertaining to Onsite Wastewater Systems, Designated Representatives, and Installers.***

Central laundry facilities, where provided, shall be reviewed, approved, and permitted by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality. Central laundry facilities shall not be connected to the onsite wastewater system serving the mobile home or recreational vehicle park.

#### A. Mobile home park individual sewer connections

1. Each mobile home space shall be provided with at least a four-inch diameter sewer riser pipe. The sewer riser pipe shall be so located on each space that the sewer connection to the mobile home drain outlet will approximate a vertical position.
2. The sewer connection (see definition) shall have a nominal inside diameter of at least three inches, and the slope of any portion thereof shall be between one-eighth ( $\frac{1}{8}$ ) and one-quarter ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ) inch per foot. The sewer connection shall consist of a single pipe only without any branch fittings. All joints shall be watertight.
3. All materials used for sewer connections shall be semi-rigid, corrosive resistant, non-absorbent, and durable with a smooth inner surface.
4. Provision shall be made for plugging the sewer riser pipe when a mobile home does not occupy the lot. Surface drainage shall be diverted away from the riser. The rim of the riser pipe shall extend at least four inches above ground elevation.

#### B. Recreational vehicle sanitary stations

All recreational vehicle parks providing a separate water connection at each recreational vehicle space shall also provide at each space a connection to an approved sewage collection and treatment/disposal system. The sewer connection at each space shall meet the requirements stated in Section 5. A sanitary station is comprised of a conveniently located, all-weather access disposal facility adequately sized to accommodate sewage holding tank discharges from recreational vehicle units not affixed to permanent disposal sites.

1. Each recreational vehicle park shall provide a sanitary station consisting of at least:
  - A trapped four-inch sewer riser pipe, connected to the recreational vehicle parking area sewerage system, surrounded at the inlet end by a concrete apron sloped to the drain, and provided with a suitable hinged cover.
  - A water outlet, equipped with approved backflow prevention devices, connected to the park water supply system to permit periodic wash-down of the immediate adjacent area.
2. Each recreational vehicle parking area shall be provided with a sanitary station in the ratio of one for every one hundred (100) recreational vehicle spaces or fractional part thereof.
3. Sanitary stations shall be screened from other activities by visual barriers such as fences, walls or natural growth and shall be separated from any recreational vehicle space by a distance of at least one hundred (100) feet.

**SECTION 6. ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM**

If an electrical wiring system is provided, it should consist of approved fixtures, equipment and appurtenances, which should be installed and maintained in accordance with the National Electrical Code.

**SECTION 7. SERVICE BUILDING AND OTHER SERVICE FACILITIES**

Service building for recreational vehicle parks

A. A central service building containing the necessary toilet and other plumbing fixtures specified in Table 1 shall be provided in recreational vehicle parks that provide parking spaces for dependent recreational vehicles. Service buildings shall be conveniently located within a radius of approximately 300 feet to the spaces to be served. Service buildings shall be conveniently located within a radius of approximately 300 feet to all areas designated or used for overflow or tent camping.

**TABLE 1**

No. of Parking Spaces <sup>a</sup>	Toilets		Urinals Men	Lavatories		Showers		Other Fixtures <sup>b</sup>
	Men	Women		Men	Women	Men	Women	
1-15	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1 service sink with a flushing rim <sup>c</sup>
16-30	1	2	1	2	2	1	1	
31-45	2	2	1	3	3	1	1	
46-60	2	3	2	3	3	2	2	
61-80	3	4	2	4	4	2	2	
81-100	3	4	2	4	4	3	3	

<p><sup>a</sup> Parking spaces for dependent recreational vehicles.</p> <p><sup>b</sup> Additional fixtures including laundry trays, clothes washing machines (one for every 30 sites) and ice-making machine may be provided.</p> <p><sup>c</sup> A service sink with a flush rim shall be provided for disposal of liquid wastes unless a sanitary station is conveniently accessible for this purpose.</p>
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For parks having more than one hundred (100) recreational vehicle spaces, there shall be provided: One (1) additional toilet and lavatory for each sex per additional thirty (30) recreational vehicle spaces; One (1) additional shower for each sex per each additional forty (40) recreational vehicle spaces; and One (1) additional men's urinal per each additional one hundred (100) recreational vehicle spaces.

B. Where a recreational vehicle park is designed for and exclusively limited to use by self-contained recreational vehicles, for each one hundred (100) recreational vehicle spaces, or fractional part thereof, there shall be one flush toilet and one lavatory for each sex.

C. When a recreational vehicle park requiring a service building is operated in connection with a resort or other business establishment, the number of sanitary facilities for such business establishment shall be in excess of those required by the schedule for recreational vehicle spaces and shall be based on the total number of persons using such facilities.

D. Service buildings and sanitary facilities shall be operated and maintained in a safe, clean, and sanitary manner.

## SECTION 8. PLUMBING

All plumbing shall conform to the current Arkansas State Plumbing and Fuel Gas Code.

## SECTION 9. REFUSE HANDLING

The storage, collection and disposal of refuse in the mobile home and recreational vehicle park shall be conducted so as to create no health hazard, rodent harborage, insect breeding area, accident or fire hazard.

## SECTION 10. PLAN REVIEW

When a mobile home or recreational vehicle park is proposed or remodeled, properly prepared plans and specifications for such construction, remodeling or alteration shall be submitted to the Arkansas Department of Health for approval before any work is begun.

## SECTION 11. PENALTY

Every firm, person, or corporation who violates any of the rules and regulations issued or promulgated by the State Board of Health or who violates any condition of a license, permit, certificate, or any other type of registration issued by the Board may be assessed a civil penalty by the Board. The penalty shall not exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) for each violation. Each day of a continuing violation may be deemed a separate violation for the purposes of penalty assessments. However, no civil penalty may be assessed until the person charged with the violation has been given the opportunity for a hearing on the violation. (Ark. Code Ann. § 20-7-101).

## SECTION 12. SEVERABILITY

If any provision of these Rules and Regulations, or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of these Rules and Regulations which can give effect without the invalid provisions or applications, and to this end the provisions hereto are declared to be severable.



SECTION 13. REPEAL

All Regulations and parts of Regulations in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

**CERTIFICATION**

This is to certify that the foregoing Rules and Regulations for Mobile Home and Recreational Vehicles Parks in Arkansas were adopted by the Arkansas State Board of Health at a regular session of said Board held in Little Rock, Arkansas on the 24th day of January, 2008.

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Paul Halverson, DrPH, FACHE

Director and State Health Officer

Dated at Little Rock, Arkansas, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2008

The foregoing Rules and Regulations, copy having been filed in my office, are hereby approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2008.

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Mike Beebe

Governor