

Suggestions pertaining to Outdoor Gatherings

This is a summary of suggestions for smaller gatherings in Arkansas, who do not meet the Department's definition of "Mass Gatherings." These suggestions should be considered when an assembly of people is anticipated at one location for a continuous period of 24 hours or more.



Gathering Before a sponsor proposes or advertises to hold an outdoor gathering they should review this summary and plan accordingly



Toilet Facilities Separate facilities for each sex, plainly marked "MEN" or "WOMEN," should be provided, at a rate of at least one toilet per 100 people in attendance. If portable toilets are used, they should be emptied at a frequency to avoid overflows, and must be emptied by a licensed septic tank cleaner. Portable Toilets must be placed so that service trucks have access to collection, in all weather conditions. When portable toilets are provided, hand washing stations—stocked with soap, water, and single use hand drying devices should be provided.

If camping and activity areas are separate, 40% of the required number of toilets should be located in the activity area and 60% must be in the designated camping areas.



Medical At least one Emergency Aid Station should be provided at a location of easy access on site. It should be identified clearly with signage. Staffing of the Emergency Aid Station is recommended have at least one of the following: 1. An Arkansas licensed paramedic or nurse: on site and reachable during all scheduled events. or 2. The Emergency Aid Station should be in a tent or weatherproof structure. The floor should be level and consist of weatherproof material, elevated from the ground to prevent flooding. Emergency contact numbers should be readily available and posted for wrecker services, hospital, doctor, ambulance, and fire departments.



Cleanup At conclusion, the site should be cleaned up and all unsanitary conditions corrected. All trash and solid waste generated should be removed within 24 hours.



Water Quality All water provided should be potable and be in accordance with the requirements of the U.S. Public Health Service Drinking Water Standards. If public water is available, a connection should be made. If a source other than a public water supply is used, water should be chlorinated adequately. It is recommend you supply one gallon of water/day/person for the anticipated attendance.

For water distribution, storage, supply, operation, and design see www.healthy.arkansas.gov/images/uploads/rules/MassGatherings.pdf Sec IV part D & Sec V



Solid waste Solid waste containers should be provided and be emptied daily to prevent overflow or unsanitary conditions. Containers should be made of impervious material and have a tight fitting lid and closures, and should be located throughout the area. All stored solid waste should be disposed of at a frequency necessary to maintain sanitary conditions and must be disposed of in an approved facility



Food Service Establishments All food service establishments must have, on display, a valid Arkansas Food Service Permit. All food prep and service shall be operated in compliance with the current Rules Pertaining to Retail Food Establishments.



Site requirements sponsor should provide an area of at least one hundred square feet per person, not including the parking area, at the premises. The location of the gathering should have good, natural drainage. Roads should be clearly marked and sufficient in width to allow for entry and exit of the property for the largest vehicle expected.

A suitable parking area for all motor vehicles should be provided, based on a ratio of three hundred square feet for every four people anticipated. All motor vehicles spaces should be arranged to prevent blocking, and allow vehicles free access to exits.

For questions or more information contact the
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