

**Interpretive Guidelines  
Rule 410 IAC 6-7.1 RV Campgrounds  
Indiana State Department of Health  
Temporary Holding Tanks**

**PURPOSE:**

For some time there has been a reasonable and just need for limited on-campsite storage, transportation and disposal of wastewater generated by recreational vehicles on dependent campsites in recreational vehicle campgrounds. This need is a matter of convenience; i.e. instead of taking the RV to the dump station, a small portable holding tank is used to temporarily store and transport material prior to final disposal. The Campground Rule does not address or provide for on-campsite wastewater storage at dependent campsites other than that referenced in Bulletin S.E. 13, Rule 410 IAC 6-10.1, and Rule 410 IAC 6-12.

Since 410 IAC 6-7.1 does not specifically address RV holding tanks, the following Guidelines are hereby established. The Guidelines will identify consistent and uniform procedures and methods for the safe and proper methods for wastewater storage and disposal and clarify appropriate use of holding tanks.

**DISCUSSION:**

The applicable rules that apply to these Guidelines include: RULE 410 IAC 6-7.1, RULE 410 IAC 6-10.1, RULE 410 IAC 6-12, Bulletin S.E. 13, and Bulletin S.E. 11. For the purpose of these Guidelines;

“Portable holding tank” is defined as a watertight wheeled container of no more than 35 gallons and capable of being “pulled” or easily transported by an individual.

“On board holding tank” is defined as a watertight container permanently installed in or on a recreational vehicle.

“Temporary holding tank” is defined as a watertight container or structure into which wastewater is discharged pending final disposal by approved methods.

**SCOPE:**

This policy applies to all campgrounds with dependent campsites as defined in 410 IAC 6-7.1, “Recreational Vehicle Campgrounds” and supersedes all previous Guidelines.

**POLICY:**

Campgrounds with dependent campsites may use portable holding tanks to temporarily store and transport wastewater to an approved sanitary dumping station. Under no circumstances may holding tanks, other than portable holding tanks or vehicle installed holding tanks, be installed or used on any campsite unless the holding tanks are owned and operated by a conservancy district, sewer district, private utility, or municipality as a part of its sewage disposal plan. (410 IAC 6-10.1-49e)

Campground operators may pump on board or portable holding tanks with equipment designed and constructed for that purpose provided that such pumping can be Interpretive Guidelines accomplished without spillage. Wastewater pumped from on board or portable holding tanks can only be disposed of into an approved sanitary dumping station. Under no circumstances can wastewater be removed from the property or disposed of in any other manner unless done in full compliance with this Policy or within the parameters of IC 13-18-12. Portable holding tanks or on board holding tanks containing formaldehyde or similar chemicals shall not be disposed of into an on-site sewage disposal system.

Pursuant to 410 IAC 6-7.1-24(c) Campground privies and portable toilets may only be pumped by a wastewater management business licensed under the provisions of IC13-18-12. Disposal of waste generated and pumped from privies and portable toilets must be removed from the campground property and disposed of in compliance with the wastewater management business license.

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