



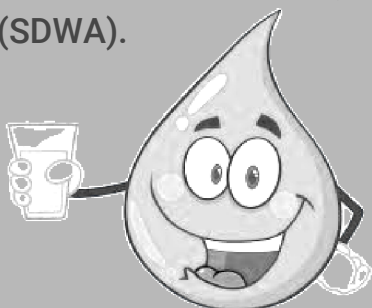
Environmental Health Newsletter

September 2022

★ Spotlight

Multiple businesses throughout Douglas County have wells and private septic systems, bringing together zoning and environmental health for oversight.

Septic systems are regulated by Douglas County Zoning. The water systems are monitored by Environmental Health for the DNR as part of the Safe Drinking Water Act. (SDWA).



Why does this matter?

1. Businesses on a well system are part of the Transient Non-Community monitoring program with the DNR and require annual site visits and water samples.
2. Every five years the water systems must have a sanitary survey conducted to evaluate eight elements of the water system that are essential for assuring safe drinking water.
3. For a business to operate, the septic system must be approved by Douglas County Zoning or appropriate municipality.

We can't believe it's already September!

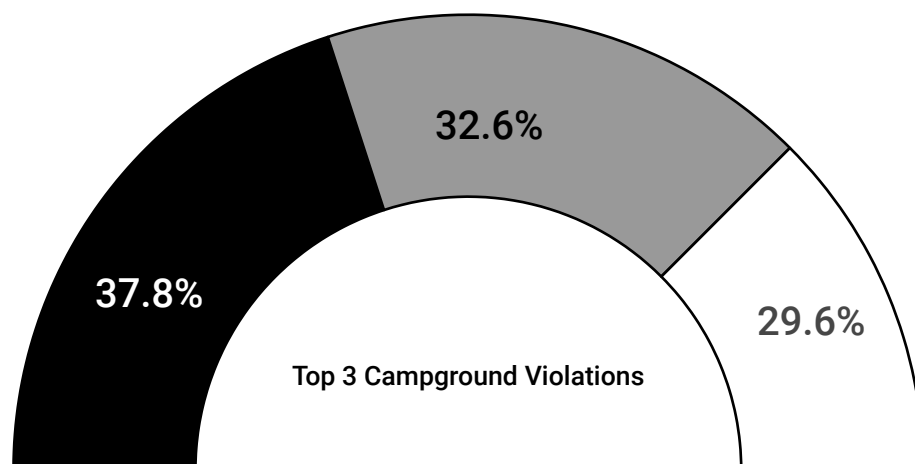
It's been a busy year with new businesses, ownership changes and more. With summer wrapping up, we wanted to reach out and check-in with our amazing businesses.

Recap from April 2022 Newsletter:

- If ownership is changing for your facility, let us know and we will help with the process and avoid unexpected delays with the new operating permit.

Reminder we are here to help you and your business succeed! If you have any questions on code or licensing please reach out.

Code Check: Campgrounds



- WATER SYSTEM-BACKFLOW PROTECTION
- SITE DESIGNATION
- CAMPGROUND-EMERGENCY TELEPHONE

1. Water service connection site is not provided with approved backflow prevention devices. All water connection points require backflow preventers.
2. Campsites are not clearly marked with an alpha or numeric symbol that is a minimum of 2 inches in height and visible from the campground's internal road system.
3. Sign not posted in public view directing campers to the nearest available 24-hour physical telephone.

Did you know?



Douglas County Environmental Health has its own certified lab for water testing of bacteria.

Douglas County has a water sampling lab on site at the government building. Water samples are accepted Monday through Wednesday. Sample collection bottles are available in suite 324 of the Government Center for \$20. Water samples are required for certain business, but are also available to the public! A positive for total coliform means potentially disease causing bacteria could be present. A positive for e. coli means there is the presence of disease causing bacteria and the water is unsafe.

Q & A

Q: In retail food service, who is required to wear a hair restraint?

A: Any employee working in the food preparation/cooking area must have an effective hair restraint, for example hat, hair net, beard net, etc.

Q: If I have a restaurant permit can I sell at the farmer's market?

A: No, unless you have previously applied and been approved for a transient/temporary event license or are a licensed mobile food establishment. Your permit for your restaurant is only good for that specific location.

Further resources can be found on our website at:

<https://www.douglascountywi.org/488/Environmental-Health-Licensing-Inspectio>

What do we do?

Environmental Health Staff are agents of the state acting on behalf of:

- Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP)
- Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS)



Do you have ideas or questions for the next Newsletter? Reach out and let us know!

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