



Office of the Health Officer

Tyler Driscoll - Health Officer
Rudolph A. Cartier III, DO - Deputy Health Officer
36 Main St., Center Harbor, NH 03226
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Report of Site Inspection

Camp Eagle's Cliff

27 Camp Road, Center Harbor, NH 03226

Date of Inspection: July 15, 2022

Situation

On July 8, 2022, a complaint was received by Tyler Driscoll, Town of Center Harbor Health Officer, in regards to modifications which had been made to camp Eagle's Cliff, a private, Catholic Church-affiliated camp located within the Town of Center Harbor. The complainant's main concerns for the Health Officer were as follows:

1. Are there adequate bathroom facilities for the number of campers at this facility?
2. Are bathroom facilities being maintained appropriately?
3. Is the construction and siting of the bathroom facilities appropriate?
4. Are food preparation areas sanitary with appropriate hand washing facilities and food storage capacity?
5. Are wastewater disposal methods aligned with State regulations and the conditions of the site plan as outlined by the Town of Center Harbor?
6. Has drinking water been tested in accordance with appropriate health regulations?

Background

Camp Eagle's Cliff is a Catholic Church-affiliated camp located on Camp Road along the Snake River and in close proximity to Waukewan Lake, a drinking water supply for the Town of Meredith. As approved by the Town of Center Harbor, a maximum of 90 personnel are on the location for approximately 1 week near the end of June through the beginning of July. Site approvals were obtained in 2001 and 2007. The camp does not appear on the State of New Hampshire list of Licensed Youth Recreational Camps for 2022.

References

NH RSA 143
NH RSA 147
NH RSA 485
NH R. Env-Wq 1022
Center Harbor Town Ordinances

Inspection

On July 15, 2022, Deputy Health Officer Cartier contacted Mark Taylor, the listed property representative on documents submitted to the Town of Center Harbor. Mr. Taylor was advised that a complaint had been received regarding toilet and food preparation areas, and that an inspection would need to be performed. Mr. Taylor provided verbal permission to enter the property for said inspection.

Inspection was performed at approximately 9:30 AM on July 15, 2022 under clear skies with no precipitation. There had been periods of heavy rain over the preceding two days, but no rain within the previous 12 hours.

Entry was gained onto the property on foot. Upon entry to the property, the area appeared clean, well maintained, and in good repair. The main area of the camp has one administrative cabin with sleeping loft, two storage sheds, one pump house, one bathroom facility, and a kitchen/eating pavilion visible.

The first area of inspection was the pump house (Fig. 2). A drilled well was noted to be in place (Fig. 3-4). The pump house appeared to have electrical connections and was operating normally. There did not appear to be any significant leaks, damage, or other hazards in the building. The well was appropriately sited away from any potential sources of visible contamination.

Inspector then moved to the pavilion containing kitchen and eating facilities. The pavilion has open sides, but did have bug netting in place. Upon approach to the area, it was noted that there was what appeared to be a dry well next to the cooking area, but a piece of black corrugated hose was noted to be bypassing this area, draining onto the ground approximately 100' uphill from the drilled well (Fig. 5-7). Subsequent investigation showed that this was a gray water drain from the sinks in the kitchen area (Fig. 8). The gray water drain did drain water which had been run into the kitchen sink (Fig. 9). There was soap and hand sanitizer available (Fig. 10). No evidence of a septic system or leach field was noted in the area. The food preparation area was found to be clean and orderly (Fig. 11-15). There was no evidence of significant contamination other than environmental dust as the area had not been used for 2 weeks. There was a commercial grade sink system with running water and hot water noted. There were multiple functional refrigeration units noted in the area. There was a "bug light" noted to be over the center of the food preparation area. There was not a significant number of insects in the area. No other significant findings were noted. Eating area was enclosed with netting (Fig. 16-17).

Inspector then moved to a privy-style bathroom facility which was approximately 146' from the nearest food preparation areas (Fig. 18-20). This was a three-stall facility with two pit toilets and one flush toilet. The interior walls were untreated wood. There was adequate toilet tissue and hand sanitizer noted in the area. The stalls did not have self-closing doors nor lids. The tank appeared to be of sealed concrete construction and appeared to be approximately 3/4 full. From records review, the tank size is 1000

gallons. There was no evidence of leakage of the tank around the area. This facility was not located near any visible surface water and was sited more than 200' from the drilled well.

Inspector then moved to the field area uphill from the main area of the camp. This area contains what appear to be one counselor bunk house, 2 camper bunk houses, one storage shed, two bathroom facilities, and one large concrete pad with cots on it that appeared to have been used as a temporary covered sleeping facility. The storage building appeared to be in mild disrepair, but sleeping quarters and bathroom facilities appeared to be in good repair.

The bathroom facility at the southwest corner of the field was inspected (Fig. 21-23). This was a two-stall pit toilet type facility. The floors were tiled and the interior walls were painted. There was adequate toilet tissue and hand sanitizer noted. The pit appeared to be of sealed concrete construction and appeared less than half full. The vent pipe on the rear of the building was damaged and did not have a trap in place which appeared to be able to let rainwater into the holding tank. There were not self closing doors or self closing seats noted on the toilets. There was no visible leakage of sewage onto the ground.

The bathroom facility at the southeast corner of the field was inspected (Fig. 24-25). This was a two-stall pit toilet type facility. The floors were tiled and the interior walls were painted. There was adequate toilet tissue and hand sanitizer noted. The pit appeared to be of sealed concrete construction and appeared less than half full. There were not self closing doors or self closing seats noted on the toilets. There was no visible leakage of sewage onto the ground.

The sleeping quarters and administrative buildings were briefly inspected, there were no other areas noted that would fall under the purview of the Health Officer. Inspector then left the property on foot. All doors were left closed but unlocked as they were found upon arrival. No damage was noted to have occurred as a result of this inspection.

Additional Information

Following the inspection, Deputy Health Officer Cartier re-contacted Mr. Taylor for clarification regarding inspections, maintenance, and permitting. The following information was requested and received as noted.

- Were the toilet facilities at the main and field sites approved by the Health Officer prior to construction and prior to use?
Unknown, installed prior to Mr. Taylor's tenure.

- Were the toilet facilities permitted by NH DES prior to construction?
Unknown, installed prior to Mr. Taylor's tenure.

- When were the toilets last emptied?
June 30, 2022, unsure by whom.
- Is the drilled well used for drinking?
No.
- Is there a septic system or leach field in place on the property?
No.

Findings, Report, and Suggestions

As there are no campers on site, there are no critical findings that would require immediate remediation.

Regarding the drilled well, this appears to be in good repair, properly sited, and functioning properly. As this well is used for less than 60 days per year, it does not qualify as a public water system under RSA 485 and therefore does not require water quality testing. However, given the fairly large number of campers using this water source, it is recommended that this water be tested if it is used for food preparation.

The kitchen facility has issues which require correction. First, gray water from dishwashing and food preparation activities is currently being discharged onto the ground. Additionally, the use of a mini well for gray water disposal is only authorized if there is no running water to the facility per NH Env-Wq 1022.02. There is currently running water in the kitchen area which would require a septic system be installed and use of the mini well be discontinued. Second, efforts to prevent contamination of food by insects likely need to be improved. While there is netting around the entire pavilion, there is a bug light located directly over the food preparation areas, and there are no self-closing doors or other features which would limit the entry of insects into the food preparation and consumption areas. It is recommended that the screening around the pavilion be secured, self-closing entry doors be installed, and the bug light be relocated.

Regarding toilet facilities, the number of toilet facilities for the camp (7) is likely low, but there is no legal or regulatory authority regarding this standard as the camp is not a licensed youth residential camp (YRC) with the State of New Hampshire. However, the camp would require an additional 2 toilets to be in compliance with YRC licensure guidelines of 1 toilet per 10 people.

The original toilet facility in the main part of the camp appears to be in good order, but does not appear to be adequately maintained as the pit is nearly full despite reportedly being emptied near the end of the camp session this year. This may be due, in part, to the fact that a flush toilet is operating into the pit. The use of water to remove waste does not comply with the definition of a "privy" and would therefore require a septic system be installed. A temporary holding tank of at least 2000 gallons could be used in place of a septic system, but this is not allowed as a long term solution. Per review of available records, the tank size is 1000 gallons. In addition, while the toilet facility is

appropriately sited away from the food preparation area, there are no self-closing doors or lids that would prevent insects from potentially contaminating nearby areas. It is recommended that the flush toilet be removed from use and that self-closing doors or lids be installed. In order to comply with YRC licensure requirements, the interior walls would need to be treated with paint or other sealant to a height of at least 48" from the floor. It is also recommended that the pit be emptied as soon as possible.

The toilet facilities in the upper or field part of the camp do not appear to have appropriate approvals from the Health Officer or Town. Approval for privies from the State is not required. However, they do appear to have sealed vaults and appear to be functioning properly. The toilet facility at the southwest corner of the field does require repair to the vent pipe in order to prevent rainwater from entering the pit. In addition, both toilet facilities in the upper part of the camp should have self-closing doors or toilet lids installed.

Complainant Concerns

The complainant's concerns are addressed as follows:

1. Are there adequate bathroom facilities for the number of campers at this facility?
Yes, as there is no requirement for a certain number of bathroom facilities for an unlicensed camp such as this. However, an additional 2 toilets would be recommended to be in compliance with YRC licensure guidelines.
2. Are bathroom facilities being maintained appropriately?
No, the tanks were reportedly emptied recently but still appear quite full, there are repairs needed to doors or toilet lids and vent pipes, and inappropriate flush toilets are being used in a privy installation.
3. Is the construction and siting of the bathroom facilities appropriate?
Yes, but it would be recommended that the privy in the main part of camp have painted walls, and all privies should have self-closing doors and/or lids installed.
4. Are food preparation areas sanitary with appropriate hand washing facilities and food storage capacity?
Yes, there is adequate hot and cold running water with appropriate refrigeration areas. There were no findings of unsanitary conditions given the current unoccupied state of the camp.
5. Are wastewater disposal methods aligned with State regulations and the conditions of the site plan as outlined by the Town of Center Harbor?
No, there is gray water being discharged onto the ground, and the presence of running water precludes the use of the existing mini well for gray water disposal.
6. Has drinking water been tested in accordance with appropriate health regulations?
Not applicable as this does not qualify as a public water supply and therefore does

not fall within testing requirements.

This report is compiled by myself, and to the best of my knowledge, there are no material or factual inaccuracies within. I submit this as a truthful and complete report and remain available for any questions at rcartier@centerharbornh.org.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rudolph A. Cartier III'.

Rudolph A. Cartier III, DO
Deputy Health Officer
Town of Center Harbor

Tyler Driscoll
Health Officer
Town of Center Harbor

Fig. 1 - Site Plan

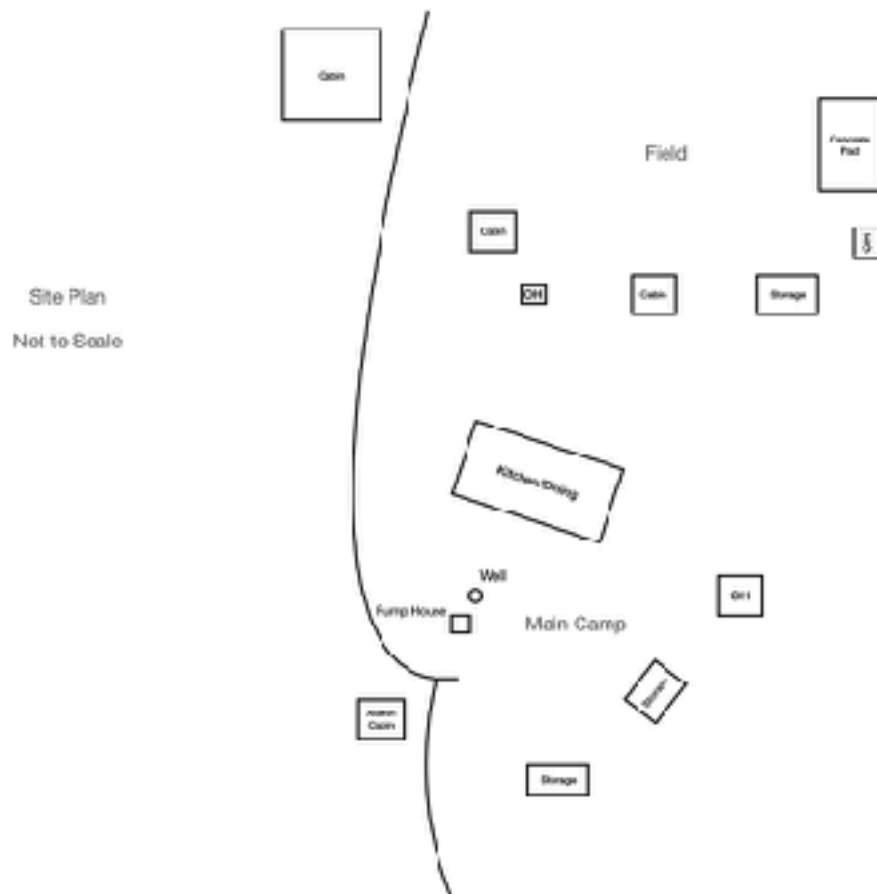


Fig. 2 - Pump House



Fig. 3 - Well Siting



Fig. 4 - Well Siting



Fig. 5 - Gray Water Discharge and Water Supply



Fig. 6 - Gray Water Line



Fig. 7 - Gray Water Line from Kitchen Sink



Fig. 8 - Kitchen Sink Plumbing



Fig. 9 - Gray Water Draining from Gray Water Discharge



Fig. 10 - Kitchen Sink



Fig. 11 - Kitchen Storage



Fig. 12 - Kitchen Cooking Area



Fig. 13 - Kitchen Overview



Fig. 14 - Kitchen Overview



Fig. 15 - Refrigeration Area



Fig. 16 - Dining Area Overview



Fig. 17 - Dining Area Entrance



Fig. 18 - Main Area Outhouse



Fig. 19 - Main Area Outhouse Flush Toilet



Fig. 20 - Main Area Outhouse Vault



Fig. 21 - Southwest Field Area Outhouse



Fig. 22 - Southwest Field Area Outhouse Interior



Fig. 23 - Southwest Field Area Outhouse Vent Pipe



Fig. 24 - Southeast Field Area Outhouse



Fig. 25 - Southeast Field Area Outhouse Interior

