



Charlie Crist
Governor

Ana M. Viamonte Ros, M.D., M.P.H.
State Surgeon General

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

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HSES 2008-005

DATE: May 20, 2008

TO: County Health Department Directors/Administrators
Environmental Health and Engineering Directors

THROUGH: Lisa Conti, D.V.M., M.P.H., Dipl. ACVPM, CEHP
Director, Division of Environmental Health

FROM: Gerald R. Briggs, Chief
Bureau of Onsite Sewage Programs
Eric J. Grimm, M.P.A., Chief
Bureau of Community Environmental Health

SUBJECT: Sanitary Facilities at Temporary Events

INFORMATION ONLY:

Under Chapter 64E-6.0101, FAC, Portable Restrooms and Portable or Stationary Holding Tanks, the department is responsible for ensuring adequate sanitary facilities are provided at temporary/special events.

At events where the department is responsible for inspecting food service booths, environmental health staff should also ensure adequate numbers of portable toilets and portable handwashing stations are available for all event attendees. The required minimum number of portable toilets can be found in Table PR 1 in the above referenced rule. The rule requires that portable hand washing facilities be provided in proportion of one handwashing station for every 10 portable restrooms at events where food is served or picnic areas are provided. For example if 12 portable toilets are required then 2 handwashing stations are required. Should the event sponsor fail to provide adequate facilities, or if the facilities are not properly serviced and create a sanitary nuisance, the department may issue a Citation for Violation under 381.0065(5), FS, Onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems; regulation.

Food service at many temporary/special events around the state is not regulated by our department. To ensure these events are properly supplied with an adequate number of sanitary facilities, county health departments should partner with the local authority that permits such events. Either the department can ask the local authority to refer event sponsors to the county health department for sanitary facility guidance, or guidance from 64E-6 can be furnished by the local authority to the event sponsor. Should complaints be received that the sponsor failed to provide the required facilities, or if the facilities are not maintained in a sanitary manner, the



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county health department should investigate the situation and issue a Citation for Violation should conditions warrant.

Some counties, such as Marion and Alachua, already have a procedure in place to ensure sanitary facilities are provided for temporary/special events. In some cases, they exceed the guidance above. This memo is not meant to supersede existing local procedures, rather, it is to provide guidance to ensure a procedure is in place in each county.

If you have any questions about this issue, please contact your OSTDS Program consultant at 850-245-4070.