

**RULES GOVERNING
MASS GATHERINGS
15A NCAC 18A .1400**

**North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health
Environmental Health Section**

**Effective February 1, 1976
Amended Effective September 1, 1990**

All Environmental Health Rules may be accessed online at:
<http://ehs.ncpublichealth.com/rules.htm>

SECTION .1400 - MASS GATHERINGS

Rules .1401 - .1426 of Title 15A Subchapter 18A of the North Carolina Administrative Code (T15A.18A .1401- .1426); has been transferred and recodified from Rules .1401 - .1426 of Title 10 Subchapter 10B of the North Carolina Administrative Code (T10.10B .1401 - .1426), effective April 4, 1990.

15A NCAC 18A .1401 DEFINITIONS

15A NCAC 18A .1402 STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS

15A NCAC 18A .1403 FACILITIES AND SERVICES

History Note: *Authority G.S. 130A-257;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1985;
Repealed Eff. September 1, 1990.

15A NCAC 18A .1404 ACTIVITY AREA

An activity area shall be provided of sufficient size to accommodate the estimated number of persons reasonably expected to be in attendance at any one time. This activity area is in addition to those areas required for parking in .1410, for camping in .1407, and for the command post in .1408 of this Section.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 130A-257;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.

15A NCAC 18A .1405 DISTANCE FROM DWELLINGS

No part of the perimeter of the activity and camping areas shall be within 1500 feet of any residence unless the occupant or owner has signed a written waiver. Notarized copies of any such waivers shall accompany the application.

History Note: *Authority G.S. 130A-257;*
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.

15A NCAC 18A .1406 DISTANCE FROM CERTAIN PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY SOURCES

No part of the perimeters of the activity, including camping areas, shall be located within one mile of a class I or class II reservoir, as classified by the Division of Environmental Health, or within three miles of a protected watershed which drains into an A-I stream, as classified by the Division of Environmental Management, and which stream is used as a source of public water supply.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Amended Eff. June 30, 1980;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.*

15A NCAC 18A .1407 CAMPING AREA

An area of adequate size to accommodate the provision of safe drinking water and sewage collection and disposal shall be provided and designated for camping. Such area shall be in addition to the areas provided for activities in Rule .1404 and for parking in Rule .1410 of this Section.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Amended Eff. September 1, 1990;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.*

15A NCAC 18A .1408 COMMAND POST

A command post at a conveniently accessible location approved by the Department shall be provided for use by the Department, law enforcement, and other governmental agencies with regulatory authority for such events. The command post shall consist of at least one building or mobile unit equipped with telephones, other utilities and parking spaces. The permittee shall provide access to the command post at all times for use by the Department and the other entities listed in this Rule.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Amended Eff. September 1, 1990;*

Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.

15A NCAC 18A .1409 INGRESS AND EGRESS ROADS: ENTRANCES AND EXITS

The permittee shall provide personnel and arrangements necessary to keep entrances and exits to public highways open to traffic at all times. The permittee shall make arrangements with private parties or consult with the North Carolina Department of Transportation and Highway Safety regarding adequate ingress and egress roads.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Amended Eff. September 1, 1990;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.*

15A NCAC 18A .1410 PARKING

Parking spaces shall be provided on the basis of one space for every four persons expected to attend. Vehicles used for camping shall park in the camping area provided in Rule .1407 of this Section. Parking on shoulders of public highways shall not be permitted and temporary signs shall be erected by permittee to so indicate.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Amended Eff. September 1, 1990;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.*

15A NCAC 18A .1411 CROWD CONTROL AND SECURITY ENFORCEMENT

The application for permit shall be accompanied by a written plan for limiting attendance to the number stated in the application for permit, the exclusion of persons not holding tickets, and a written plan for security enforcement, including the number of security guards to be provided for internal and external crowd control and security enforcement. The plan shall be accompanied by a written statement by the sheriff or chief of police, whichever has jurisdiction over the area, that the plan seems adequate. The permittee shall execute the plan.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;*

Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.

15A NCAC 18A .1412 DUST CONTROL

The application shall be accompanied by a written plan for dust control. The permittee shall execute the plan.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.*

15A NCAC 18A .1413 FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

The application shall be accompanied by a written plan for fire prevention and control.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.*

15A NCAC 18A .1414 PLANS FOR EMERGENCIES

The application shall be accompanied by written plans for dealing with emergency situations involving the occurrence of incidents requiring rapid evacuation, including arrangements for use of emergency egress roads.

*History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.*

15A NCAC 18A .1415 PROVISION OF MEDICAL CARE

The application for permit shall be accompanied by a written plan for the provision of medical care, such plan having been approved in writing by the local health director. At the time of the inspection, the structure and all supplies and equipment provided for in the plan shall be in place; and the agreements and statements provided for in the plan shall be determined to be valid. The plan shall include provisions for:

- (1) the name and address of a physician licensed to practice medicine in North Carolina to be responsible for the organization and delivery of emergency medical services; A signed notarized statement by the physician accepting the responsibility shall accompany the plan. He shall determine how many licensed physicians, licensed nurses, and other medical personnel shall be on duty on the premises at any particular time;
- (2) at least one enclosed covered structure to be used as a medical treatment center; The structure or structures shall provide at least a total of 450 square feet and shall have running water under pressure from an approved source;
- (3) a list of medical supplies and equipment sufficient to support reasonably anticipated medical care requirements;
- (4) notification of all general public hospitals within 20 miles of the mass gathering location as to scheduled dates and anticipated attendance of the mass gathering;
- (5) the name and address of at least one licensed ambulance service agency to be responsible for providing emergency transportation; A signed notarized statement by an official of the agency accepting the responsibility shall accompany the plan.

History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Amended Eff. September 1, 1990;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.

15A NCAC 18A .1416 WATER SUPPLY

- (a) There shall be provided a water supply from an approved source. An approved emergency source shall be provided in addition where necessary. Facilities approved by the Department for the distribution and dispensing of water shall be provided. The sponsor shall have in his possession, at the time of inspection, the reports of bacteriological and chemical examinations of water samples performed by the Division of Laboratory Services or another laboratory certified by the Department to perform such examinations. The water shall be chlorinated so as to provide a free chlorine residual of at least 1.0 part per million at all outlets at all times during the gathering. The water supply and the facilities for distribution and dispensing shall be provided with effective safeguards to prevent the introduction of hallucinogenic drugs or other contamination.
- (b) If water is to be provided only for drinking and washing, water shall be supplied at a rate of three gallons per person per day and a peak hour demand of one and one-half pints per person. If water is to be provided for drinking, washing, and bathing, water shall be supplied at a rate of 12 gallons per day per person and a peak hour demand of six pints per person.

(c) Water shall be obtained from a public or community water supply approved by the Department. If a new source of water supply is to be provided, the application shall be accompanied by the necessary plans, engineer's report, and specifications (in triplicate) as required for review and approval by the Department. The application shall include plans, engineer's report, and specifications for an emergency source capable of supplying at least three gallons per day per person. If water is to be hauled from an off-site source, storage facilities shall be provided in the area sufficient in volume to supply the needs of the gathering for its duration. Before being filled with water for use during the gathering, all such storage tanks shall be cleaned thoroughly, filled with clean water containing a chlorine residual of at least 100 parts per million, and, after a contact time of at least 24 hours, all such tanks shall be emptied. Subsequently, and prior to the issuance of a permit, all such tanks shall be filled with water from an approved source and all inlets to such tanks shall be closed and locked so as to give positive protection against the introduction of contamination.

(d) Water outlets shall be provided at an adequate number of convenient and readily accessible locations properly distributed throughout the activity and camping areas.

History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;

Eff. February 1, 1976;

Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;

Amended Eff. September 1, 1990; June 30, 1980;

Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.

15A NCAC 18A .1417 TOILET FACILITIES: SEWAGE DISPOSAL

(a) Sanitary toilet facilities shall be provided at convenient and readily accessible locations properly distributed throughout the activity and camping areas at a rate of not more than 100 persons per toilet seat.

(b) If chemical toilet rental service is to be employed, all toilets shall be so located as to be readily accessible by service vehicles and shall be serviced as often as necessary. Material removed from such toilets shall be disposed of in a public or community sewerage system, or in a disposal trench to be constructed in the area. Each load of material deposited in such trench shall be covered immediately with earth or lime. At the end of each 24-hour period, the material shall be covered with a layer of at least six inches of earth.

(c) If trench latrines are to be used, all trenches shall be covered with fly-tight seat boxes with hinged lids.

(d) If water-carried sewerage facilities are provided, the sewer system shall be connected to a public or community sewerage system having wastewater treatment facilities of adequate capacity to treat the flow of wastewater from the mass gathering. The application shall be accompanied by a signed statement by the Division of Environmental Management attesting to the adequacy of the treatment facilities. A similar statement shall accompany the application if material removed from chemical toilets is to be disposed of in a public or community sewerage system. No sewage shall be discharged to the surface of the ground or into any watercourse without the approval of the Division of Environmental Management.

History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Amended Eff. September 1, 1990;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.

15A NCAC 18A .1418 SOLID WASTE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

- (a) Facilities shall be provided for all solid wastes to be collected and stored in leak-proof, nonabsorbent containers, and all solid wastes shall be removed daily or more often and disposed of in a community solid waste disposal facility or in a sanitary landfill to be constructed in the area. Solid wastes shall be placed in the landfill, compacted as densely as possible, and covered after each day of operation with a compacted layer of at least six inches of dirt.
- (b) Approved receptacles having a maximum capacity of 32 gallons shall be provided at places conveniently located throughout the activity, camping and parking areas, and at each food service facility for the deposition of solid wastes.
- (c) If bulk solid waste storage containers are used, at least two four-cubic-yard containers shall be provided per 1,000 persons in the case of once-daily removal, or two two-cubic-yard containers per 1,000 persons in the case of twice-daily removal, and these containers shall be so located as to be accessible to solid waste service vehicles.

History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.

15A NCAC 18A .1419 FOOD DISPENSING

- (a) Sanitary food dispensing facilities shall be provided at accessible and convenient locations, and shall be maintained in a sanitary condition.
- (b) Perishable food items dispensed from such facilities shall be limited to prepackaged items, such as wrapped sandwiches, prepared in commercial establishments and under official sanitary supervision, and shall be dispensed in the unbroken packages; provided, that chicken, hamburgers, and frankfurters obtained from approved sources may be cooked and packaged at the site if all operations of preparation, cooking and packaging in unit packages for dispensing to individuals are done inside an approved structure or vehicle, in a sanitary manner, and otherwise in compliance with the "Sanitation of Restaurants and Other Foodhandling Establishments," 15A NCAC 18A .2600. Perishable foods shall be stored at or below 45 degrees F., or in the frozen state, until heated or cooked immediately before serving.

History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;

Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;

Amended Eff. September 1, 1990;

Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.

15A NCAC 18A .1420 INSECT AND RODENT CONTROL

There shall be no fly or mosquito-breeding places, rodent harborages, or undrained areas on the premises. Necessary measures shall be taken to control flies, mosquitoes, rodents, or other vermin.

History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;

Eff. February 1, 1976;

Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;

Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.

15A NCAC 18A .1421 POST-GATHERING CLEAN-UP

Within one week after the end of the gathering, all sanitary landfills and any trenches or pits used for sewage and liquid waste disposal shall be covered with at least two feet of compacted earth material; and the areas and immediate surrounding properties shall be cleaned of all litter and solid wastes attributable to the mass gatherings. In addition, any signs, litter, and solid wastes on roads leading from the areas and within one mile of the areas and which can be attributed to the mass gathering shall be removed. All solid wastes shall be disposed of as provided in .1418 of this Section. Unless otherwise directed by the owner of the property, all temporary facilities (such as solid waste receptacles and signs) shall be removed from the areas.

History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;

Eff. February 1, 1976;

Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;

Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.

15A NCAC 18A .1422 NOISE LEVEL AT PERIMETER

The application shall be accompanied by detailed plans for amplifying equipment, which shall be so located and operated as to limit the noise level at the perimeter of the site to no more than 70 decibels on the A scale of a sound level meter which meets the specifications of the American National Standards Institute, which are adopted by reference in accordance with G.S. 150B-14(c). The applicant shall include a signed statement certifying that the noise level limit as herein specified will not be exceeded.

History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Amended Eff. September 1, 1990;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.

15A NCAC 18A .1423 LIGHTING

The application shall be accompanied by detailed plans for lighting designed to illuminate the site.

History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.

15A NCAC 18A .1424 SIGNS

Signs shall be posted throughout the area showing the locations of toilet facilities, water supply outlets, solid waste receptacles, food stands, first aid facilities, and the command post.

History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A, rule is necessary without substantive public interest Eff. July 20, 2019.

15A NCAC 18A .1425 SEVERABILITY

History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Expired Eff. August 1, 2019 pursuant to G.S. 150B-21.3A.

15A NCAC 18A .1426 REFERENCE RULES

History Note: Authority G.S. 130A-257;
Eff. February 1, 1976;
Readopted Eff. December 5, 1977;
Amended Eff. July 1, 1985;
Repealed Eff. September 1, 1990.