

## Regulations for Long-term Camping with a Recreational Unit on Vacant Land

Pursuant to Section 3.06.3 of the South Branch Township Zoning Ordinance, long-term camping with a recreational unit on vacant land is permissible with an Annual Camping Permit, subject to **all** of the following conditions:

- Must meet all District Health Department #10 requirements for potable water and waste disposal system and copies of all associated DHD#10 approved permits must be submitted to the zoning office upon application for an annual camping permit.
- The recreational unit must adhere to all setback requirements.
- The recreational unit must have a current, valid license tag and be operable.
- The recreational unit must **not** be used as a permanent dwelling unit.
- The recreational unit and surrounding campsite area must comply with all South Branch Township Ordinance(s) prohibiting blight, noise, and nuisances. ([ORD#21](#) & [ORD#1](#))
- Campfires must be contained in a metal campfire ring.
- Payment of the \$100 annual camping permit fee. Payment to be made annually. Fee covers administrative costs and a yearly site inspection.
- Applicant agrees to an annual inspection of the recreational unit and surrounding campsite area to be performed by the Zoning Administrator.
- If utilizing an RV dump station for waste disposal, copies of receipts must be submitted to the Zoning Administrator upon request for renewal of permit. *\*See note below regarding RV dump station receipts.*

### Basic Requirements for potable water and waste disposal systems:

- If a septic system (tank & drain field) is **not** installed, opting instead for an earth privy (out-house) only a well with a hand pump is permitted – DHD#10 will **not** permit a pressurized well if there is no septic system.
- If opting for an earth privy – only vault chamber style allowed and MUST obtain DHD#10 permit!
- DHD#10 approved and permitted earth privy is only allowable in the RC & FF zoning districts.
- If campsite does **not** have electrical hook-up installed, DHD#10 will **not** permit a pressurized well
- If a pressurized well is desired, a septic system and electrical hook-up **must** be installed.
- Minimum requirements for a septic system would be the same as for a 1 bedroom house:
  - 1200 gallon septic tank size
  - 250' to 400' drain field size (depending on soil drainage)
- If opting for hand pump well, or no well, with no septic and no earth privy on site, waste must be taken to an authorized RV dump station & receipts for dumping must be kept as proof of proper disposal. *\*RV dump station for waste disposal is only an option in RC & FF zoning districts – NOT for LDR or MR zoning districts.*

### Please contact the DHD#10 for complete information and applications for well & septic permits

District Health Department #10  
501 Norway Street  
Grayling, MI 49738  
P: 989-348-7800 | F: 989-348-5346

Link to the District Health Department #10, (DHD#10) website: <http://www.dhd10.org/>