



WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF CAMPGROUND OWNERS

WACO

P.O. Box 228 | Ettrick, WI 54627

Lori Severson, Executive Director

Phone: 608-525-2327

Email: lori@seversonandassociates.com

OUR MISSION to promote, usage, growth and improvement of private campgrounds in the State of Wisconsin.

WHO WE ARE WACO represents some of the largest and best-run campgrounds in Wisconsin, located in every region of the state, with a current membership of 224 privately owned campgrounds.

WHAT WE DO Host annual trade show including a 4-day convention that boasts 192 suppliers and over 53 educational seminars, keeping our members informed of best business practices, campground code, marketing ideas, and community involvement.

Conduct Fall workshops to tour parks & discuss best practices twice per year, which include guest speakers like DATCP who share trends of code violations, what changes are coming and how to best prepare our member parks so they are in line with the state codes in place.

WACO participated in the Campground Code Rewrite and is committed to educating our members on the importance of safety and changes to campground regulation.

Offer perspective on a wide variety of industry-specific topics like building codes, structural and engineering changes, seasonal camping, rental units (cabins, lodges, yurts, etc.), ponds, fire rings, and more.

We grow tourism dollars, create employment opportunities, and contribute to four of the five sections of visitor spending in the state of WI.

Give back to communities with fundraisers, benefits, and donations to services like Fire, Police, and Emergency Services departments to name a few.

REGULATORY CONSIDERATIONS OF CAMPGROUNDS ON FARMS

Farmers or landowners who want up to 3 campers on their field for personal use are fine when they RENT; however, farm campgrounds should follow all the health and safety codes private campgrounds do. Questions to be considered:

APPROVED SEPTIC / WASTE REMOVAL & OTHER CONCERNS:

- Where are the farm campgrounds dumping human waste/wastewater or garbage
- How will the toilet facilities be controlled?
- How will the campsites be monitored to avoid barns and animals or other sources of odors and flies?

APPROVED WATER SOURCE:

- What is the freshwater supply in farm campgrounds?
- How is the water being sampled - by the DNR as required for private campgrounds?

EMERGENCY RESPONSE & SAFETY:

- How will roads be designated and laid out for disaster purposes for ambulances, police, and fire trucks?
And will they be graded for those vehicles?
- How fire codes be met with only 10' min distances between campsites?
- What would prevent campers from locating in a flood zone?

RECORD KEEPING / LICENSING & INSPECTION:

- Who will determine if there are violations for health/safety – how and when will they be addressed?
- How will the Health department trace infectious diseases?
- Will reservations or other records be kept? How will law enforcement know if a person of interest is staying there?
- How will structures be treated? What fire codes will they meet? Are monoxide detectors and fire equipment required in any rentals?
- How will you control non-RVIA stickered units? Without this control, homemade vehicles not inspected for safety would be allowed onsite.

USE & DESIGNATION OF SITES / LENGTH OF STAY:

- What gates are controlled on the property?
- How will you stop more than six people at a campsite – can you have 30 people in one unit?
- What distance will be required between the roads and the campsites?