**Section 1 - Definition**

(A) Board of Health: The Seneca County Board of Health

(B) Health Commissioner: The Health Commissioner of the Seneca County General Health District.

(C) Operator: The person responsible for managing the mass gathering. In the event that no manager exists, the owner, or the lessee of the ground encompassing the mass gathering area, shall be deemed to be the "operator" under these regulations.

(D) Temporary Mass Gathering: An actual or reasonably anticipated assembly of 1,000 or more people, which continues or can reasonably be, expected to continue for 12 or more hours. This definition does not apply to stadiums, athletic fields, arenas, or government sponsored fairgrounds.

**Section 2 - Permit required**

(A) No person shall operate a temporary mass gathering unless a permit has been issued for the gathering by the Board of Health.

(B) Application for a permit to operate a temporary mass gathering shall be made to the health commissioner, by the person who will operate the temporary mass gathering on a form and in a manner prescribed by the Health Commissioner. Application for a permit to operate a temporary mass gathering shall be made at least 15 days before the first day of advertising and at least 45 days before the first day of the gathering. The application shall be accompanied by such plans, reports and specifications as the Health Commissioner shall deem necessary.

(C) A separate permit shall be required for each temporary mass gathering.

(D) The permit to operate a temporary mass gathering may be revoked by the Board of Health if the temporary mass gathering is promoted, operated, maintained or conducted in violation of this temporary mass gathering regulation. The permit shall automatically expire upon written request of the permittee or upon conclusion of the time period for which the permit was issued.

(E) A permit issued for the operation of a temporary mass gathering shall be posted or kept on file at the mass gathering site and made available by the operator at the request of proper officials.

**Section 3 - Permit Fees**

(A) The permit fee shall be in the amount set annually by order of the Board of Health and limited to an amount calculated to reimburse the Seneca County General Health District for its reasonable, actual, and necessary costs in receiving, processing, reviewing applications, and inspection(s) of site for permits to conduct an outdoor mass gathering.

(B) The permit fee shall be paid by the organizer upon filing the application with the Health Department. The fee is non-refundable.

**Section 4 - Approval of Plan**

(A) The plans and specifications shall clearly show and describe:

(1) The total area to be used for the temporary mass gatherings;

(2) Entrance, exit and interior roadways;

(3) Method and plan for drainage of surface and storm water;

(4) Location and design of service buildings;

(5) Location, number, design, and type of toilet facilities, plumbing fixtures, waste water receptacles, and disposal devices;

(6) Solid waste storage and collection facilities;

(7) Insect, rodent, and noxious weed control;

(8) Location, number and design of any drinking water supply;

(9) Location and number of food vendors, mobile food service operations, mobile retail food establishments, temporary retail establishments, and temporary food service operations as defined in section 3717-1-01 of the Administrated Code;

(10)Location of temporary campgrounds, if needed, as defined in section 3701-26-01 of the Administrative Code;

(11) Other facilities which may be needed to protect the public’s health.

**Section 5 - Site**

(A) A temporary mass gathering shall not be located where surface water drainage is inadequate or impractical.

(B) A temporary mass gathering shall not be located where satisfactory disposal of sewage cannot be provided.

(C) The grounds shall be maintained in a clean and reasonably dry condition.

(D) Adequate signs shall be used to locate and identify all facilities.

(E) The operator shall establish a headquarters on the site.

(F) The operator or the operator's designee shall be present at the gathering at all times during operating hours.

**Section 6 - Water Supply**

(A) The water supply shall be designed, constructed, operated and maintained in accordance with the requirements of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

(B) Plans for the proposed new or modified water supplies shall be submitted to and approved by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

(C) Water obtained from a private water source, such as a well, must be tested for coliform bacteria in accordance with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency regulations.

(1) Test results must be submitted with the application.

(D) Water hauled to the temporary mass gathering shall be from an approved source, hauled by licensed water haulers as defined in section 3701-28-16 of the Administrative code.

(E) All pumps, tanks, filters and other equipment used in the storage and distribution of potable water shall be in compliance with 3701-28 of the Administrative Code.

(F) The operator shall provide and strategically locate drinking water outlets to effectively meet the drinking water needs of attendees and staff.

(G) Communal drinking cups shall not be permitted. Drinking fountains shall be of an approved sanitary design and construction.

**Section 7 - Waste Water Disposal**

(A) Operators of temporary mass gatherings shall provide methods for disposing liquid wastes.

(B) Sewage disposal systems shall be designed, constructed, operated, and maintained in accordance with the requirements prescribed by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency.

(C) Methods of disposal may include:

(1) The services of a sewage or septage hauler that is registered by the Seneca County General Health District.

(2) Connection to a municipal sewage treatment system.

(D) Gray water shall not be discharged onto the surface of the ground.

**Section 8 - Toilet Facilities**

(A) Sanitary toilet facilities shall be provided at an adequate number and readily accessible locations properly distributed throughout the area.

(B) The toilet facilities shall be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition and an adequate supply of toilet tissue shall be provided at all times.

(C) Portable toilets for each sex shall be in the ratio of not less than one unit per 150 persons in attendance at one time.

(D) Portable toilets shall be frequently monitored and emptied as often as necessary to prevent any nuisances and must be disposed of in a sanitary manner.

(E) Portable toilets shall be pumped as necessary by a septage hauler registered by the Seneca County General Health District.

**Section 9 - Handwashing Facilities**

(A) Suitable and adequate handwashing facilities shall be provided and shall be convenient to the toilet facilities, portable toilets, and food handling facilities.

(B) Handwashing facilities shall be provided in a ratio of not less than one such unit per 300 persons.

(C) The facilities shall be maintained in a clean condition at all times.

(D) Gray water from handwash facilities shall be contained and removed by a licensed septage hauler.

**Section 10 - Camping**

(A) Recreational Vehicle Parks, Combined Parks-Camps and Temporary Park-Camps shall be in compliance with Chapter 3701-26 of the Administrative Code.

**Section 11 - Food Service**

(A) Food service operations shall be in compliance with Chapter 3717-1 of the Administrative Code.

**Section 12 - Solid Waste**

(A) Adequate and sanitary facilities shall be provided and maintained for the storage and collection of solid waste.

(B) Solid waste storage containers shall be constructed of impervious material and have tight fitting lids and closures (except in concert areas). Such containers shall be located conveniently throughout the area in such a manner as to facilitate collection of the solid waste.

(C) Containers for refuse and solid waste storage shall be provided at a minimum ratio of one 30 gallon container for each 16 persons or fraction thereof anticipated or one cubic yard of container for each 125 persons or fraction therof anticipated.

(D) All refuse shall be removed from storage containers at least once every 24 hours and transported and disposed of in a manner which is authorized and complies with state and local laws, ordinances and regulations.

**Section 13 - Vector Control**

(A) Effective measures shall be taken to control insects and rodents.

(B) Appropriate steps must be instituted no earlier than 72 hours and/or no later than 48 hours before the advertised start of the gathering, in order to reduce the mosquito population to a reasonable level.

**Section 14 - Safety**

(A) The operator shall comply with state and/or local fire safety standards.

**Section 15 - Parking and Traffic Control**

(A) The operator shall comply with state and/or local traffic laws.

**Section 16 - Noise**

(A) The operator shall comply with state and/or local standards.

**Section 17 - Hazardous Weather Conditions**

(A) The operator shall develop contingency plans for dangerous weather conditions that may occur during the gathering. The contingency plans shall include evacuation, cancellation, or delay of the gathering and provisions for support facilities.

**Section 18 - Electricity and Lighting**

(A) All common use facilities shall be provided with adequate light to illuminate the entire area at all times.

(B) All wiring and lighting fixtures shall be installed in accordance with the National Electric Code or applicable local or state electrical codes and shall be maintained in a safe condition.

(C) All lighting shall be controlled so as not to reflect on any area beyond the boundary of the said site.

**Section 19 Operator's Responsibility**

(A) The operator shall be responsible for the maintenance of the site and facilities. He/She shall provide responsible supervision of the maintenance and sanitary condition of the site and facilities. He/She shall abate all nuisance or unsanitary conditions at the site.

(B) When the site and facilities are vacated or abandoned, the owner or operator shall place the site and facilities in a clean and sanitary condition within 48 hours after the event.

**Section 20 - Inspections**

(A) The Seneca County General Health District may conduct inspections before, during, and after a gathering to ensure compliance with approved plans.

(B) The operator shall provide the Seneca County General Health District with access to all areas of the gathering that the Seneca County General Health District deem necessary.

(C) The operator shall effectively communicate the Seneca County General Health District's access privileges to staff.

**Section 21 - Notice of Violation or Closing**

(A) The Seneca County General Health District may issue a notice of violation to the owner, operator, or the operator's designee if the gathering fails to meet the requirements of the conditions of the permit.

(B) The Seneca County General Health District may issue a notice of closure of the gathering or part thereof to the owner, operator, or the operator's designee if the Seneca County General Health District determines that conditions at the gathering constitute a serious or imminent health or physical hazard.

**Section 22 - Penalties**

(A) Any person who violates any portion of this regulation is subject to the penalties provided by Section 3709.99 of the Revised Code.

**Section 23- Effect of Partial Invalidity**

(A) Should any part of this regulation be declared unconstitutional for any reason, the remainder of the regulation shall not be affected thereby.

**Section 24 - Effective Date**

(A) This regulation shall be effective on and after the first day of JUNE, 2012.

Seneca County General Health District

Temporary Mass Gatherings

Regulations

This document represents regulations establishing standards for the location, operation, and maintenance of temporary mass gatherings; and for the issuance of permits to hold a temporary mass gathering in order to protect the public health and to prevent unsanitary conditions and nuisances.

Authority granted under sections 3709.20 & 3709.21 of the Ohio Revised Code