



Environmental News

Volume III, Issue I

December 2004

Training Dates Available at JCCHS

01/25/05 Food Sanitation

02/09/05 On-site Sewage

Call for Details

660-747-6121 Ext 258

Helpful Websites

Missouri Department of Natural Resources

www.dnr.state.mo.us

Missouri Tobacco Use Prevention Program

www.dhss.state.mo.us/SmokingAndTobacco

Missouri Department of Health & Senior Services

www.dhss.state.mo.us

Center for Disease Control

www.cdc.gov/germstopper

American Cancer Society

www.cancer.org

Johnson County Soil Survey

<http://soils.missouri.edu/surveys/johnson/index.html>

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PLEASE CIRCULATE

DO YOU NEED A PERMIT TO BUILD IN JOHNSON COUNTY?

When asked the question, "What kind of permits does one need before building a new business or home?", many county residents will reply that the county does not have planning, zoning or building permit requirements. And they are right. While the municipalities have requirements that must be met, the county does not have planning, zoning or building permits. While there are not county laws that require permits or

inspections there are state requirements. To begin with, all on-site sewage systems must be constructed and repaired by a registered installer in accordance with state standards. This requirement applies to all construction on any sized property regardless if a permit is required.

A single-family home that is located on a lot less than 3 acres in size must be permitted by the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS).

Properties over 3 acres that have more than one home require a permit if the sewage systems for the homes are within 360 feet of each other or the total acreage is not at least ten times the number of residences on the property. For example, two homes on 15 acres requires a permit, while two homes on 20 acres would not require a permit. Commercial buildings, multifamily units, and places of assembly are always required to have a

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SECONDHAND SMOKE

Secondhand smoke is classified as a Group A Carcinogen (known cause of cancer) by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Secondhand smoke is the third leading cause of preventable death in

the U.S. Every year an estimated 1,200 Missourians die from illnesses caused by secondhand smoke. There are more than 4,000 chemicals in secondhand smoke, more than 200 of which are

known poisons. Some of these chemicals include arsenic, carbon monoxide, DDT, formaldehyde and lead. Secondhand smoke causes many other diseases, including

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SAFE HANDLING OF BEVERAGE DISPENSERS

The Food and Drug Administration has issued the following guidance as a result of recent outbreaks of Norovirus and Hepatitis involving beverage dispensers/coolers. The Norovirus outbreak resulted in the death of a teenage boy. Information on these diseases can be found at the Center for Disease Control web site at www.cdc.gov. These guidelines convey good public health practices.

Water and Ice

* Water and Ice must be from an approved water supply that is tested to ensure it is safe.

Beverage

* Juice, drink mixes, flavorings and alcohol must be from approved sources. Juices must be pasteurized.

Beverage Dispensers

* The dispenser should be certified for sanitation by the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) or accredited certification program.

* The spigot should be a gravity flow design to prevent contamination during use.

* The dispensers should be cleaned and sanitized at least once every 24 hours using the wash-rinse-sanitize method. The compartments of the sink should

be of sufficient size to allow immersion of the container. For containers too large to be immersed in the three-compartment sink, a clean and sanitized in-place procedure can be used.

This includes use of a clean bucket and wash cloth for the detergent cleaning step, followed by rinsing the container at least three times with water, and finally, spraying the inside of the container and spigot with a sanitizer solution. (1 tsp bleach/gallon of water)

* Provide an area to allow proper air-drying of dispensers. Containers shall not be stored on the floor at any time.

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SECONDHAND SMOKE

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asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, middle ear infection, chronic respiratory symptoms, low birth weight and sudden infant death syndrome.



Missouri's Clean Indoor Air Law, effective August 28, 1992, states that a person shall not smoke in a public place or meeting except in a designated smoking area.

A study conducted by DHSS in 2003 showed that only 26.4% of Missourians currently smoke and that 49% think that restaurants should be completely smoke free.

A public place is not required by the law to allow smoking and therefore is not required to have a smoking area. If a smoking area is created it cannot exceed 30% of the total space available. Examples of a public place are: indoor workplaces, retail stores, theaters, healthcare facilities, schools, childcare centers,

restaurants and bars.

The law does exempt tobacco stores, large indoor arenas with more than 15,000 seats and bars and restaurants with fewer than 50 seats. For small bars, taverns and restaurants that do not designate smoke free areas, there is a requirement to post a sign stating "Non-Smoking Areas Are Unavailable".

With the growing number of non-smoking customers, employee health cost and cost of maintaining separate smoking and non-smoking seating areas, many restaurants and bars are moving towards smoke free environments. One study estimated that for every employee who quit smoking, their employer saved \$960 a year in ill-

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PERMITS

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sewage permit issued by the DHSS for small facilities (less than 3,000 gallons per day) or the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) for large facilities (over 3,000 Gallons per day). Developers of subdivisions, mobile home parks and campgrounds need to contact MDNR Kansas City Regional Office (816) 622-7000 early in their planning to insure they comply with 10 CSR 20-6.030 (Disposal of Wastewater in Residential Housing Developments).

In summary, a single family home is the only structure that may qualify for the permit exemption. So what do you tell someone when they ask you, "Do I need a permit to build?". Tell them to call Johnson County Community Health Services at 660-747-6121 to find out what State on-site sewage laws apply to the type of building/facility

BEVERAGE CONTAINERS

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*Pay special attention to cleaning and sanitizing the dispenser nozzle.

Dispenser Filling

* The dispenser should be filled in an area free of environmental contaminants such as dust and insects.

* The dispenser should not be

placed on the floor while filling.

* The dispenser should be filled in a room with smooth, dry, easily cleanable floors, walls and ceilings. The dispenser should be kept away from chemical storage or other contaminants.

* If a water hose is used to fill the dispenser it should be certified or classified for sanitation by NSF or other accredited certification program (garden hoses are not approved) and not stored on the ground or capable of being submerged into a drain.

* Hoses should be used exclusively for drinking water dispenser filling and not to fill other equipment or tanks (pesticide, herbicide, battery containers).

* Backflow devices **are** required to protect the water supply.

*Wash hands with soap and water prior to handling water and ice.

*Ice must be dispensed with an ice scoop. No bare hand contact with ice.

SECONDHAND

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ness related expenses.

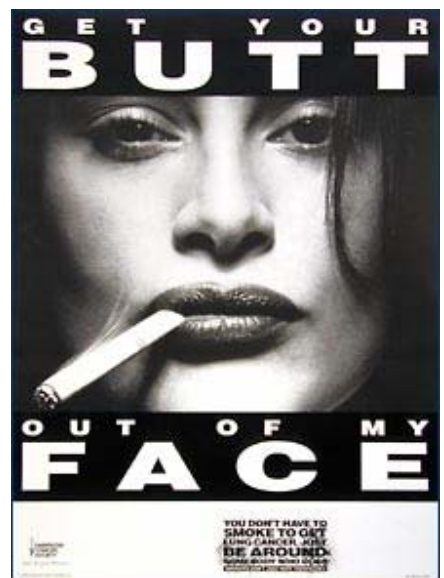
For more information about the benefits of having a smoke free environment and the dangers of secondhand smoke contact:

Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services, Tobacco Use Prevention Program
(573) 522-2820
www.dhss.state.mo.us/SmokingAndTobacco

The American Cancer Society
800-ACS-2345
www.cancer.org

The American Heart Association
800-323-7883
www.americanheart.org

The American Lung Association
800-LUNG-USA
www.lungusa.org



Johnson County Community Health Services
Office of Environmental Health
429 Burkarth Road
Warrensburg, MO 64093
Phone: (660) 747-6121
Fax: (660) 747-1294

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References

DHSS Brochure: Missouri's Clean Indoor Air Law
Centers for Disease Control Fact Sheet: Vaccination is Not the Only Way to Help Prevent the Flu

Tidbit

JCCHS would prefer to send these newsletters by email or fax to save on printing costs. Please contact Travis to give him your email address or fax number. Thanks.

BE A GERMSTOPPER

With this years shortage of flu vaccine, the re-emergence of Pertussis (whooping cough) and the continued reports of Noroviruses Be a **GERMSTOPPER**.

- **Stay home when you are sick.** Do not go to school, day care, work or run errands. Call and consult with your health care provider about their need to see you.
- **Cover your mouth and nose** with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It will prevent others from getting ill.



- **Avoid close contact with people who are sick.** When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from catching your illness

- **Wash your hands often.**

And always

After:

Sneezing
Coughing
Using the bathroom

Before:

Eating
Drinking
Using Tobacco
Touching your eyes, mouth or nose.