Mass Gatherings

What is the Purpose of the NY State Mass Gathering Laws?

The purpose of the Mass Gathering laws as outlined by Part 7, 7-4 and Part 18 / NY State Sanitary Code Part 18 is to ensure that necessary services are provided onsite by the promoter of the mass gathering. New York State responded to the problems at the original Woodstock and other early overnight concerts by developing these mass gathering laws.

These laws ensure event traffic will be properly handled, enough parking for vehicles, proper sanitary controls, ensuring proper medical and emergency services for the attendees, enough food and water onsite for the attendees, and enough security will be provided for crowd control.

New York State Sanitary Code Part 7, 7-4

New York State Sanitary Code PART 18

New York State PART 18 Policy Statement

What are Some of the Steps Needed to Obtain a Mass Gathering Permit?

Subpart 7-1 requires that the promoter must complete and submit to Clinton County Health Department for its approval an “Application for a Permit to Advertise or Otherwise Promote or Hold a Mass Gathering” at least 30 days before the first day of advertising and at least 60 days before the first day of the gathering.

Clinton County Health Department recommends that a promoter contacts us as soon as possible because of the extensive plans that must be submitted. The Department recommends that the promoter submit a Notice of Intent and Application for a Permit to Advertise or Otherwise Promote or Hold a Mass Gathering as soon as possible.

Past mass gathering events have taken several months for development of acceptable engineering plans because the plan’s complexity. It is in everybody’s best interest to start as early as possible. The Department will forward addition information to the promoter including “Guidelines for Preparation of Engineering Report”, Subpart 7-1 and Part 18.
What are Some of the Topics that will be Discussed at My Appointment?

Clinton County Health Department will be requiring the promoter to attend several meetings because of the complexity of the engineer plans and the number of involved agencies who need to attend these meetings.

Do the Food Vendors for a Mass Gathering Need an Operating Permit for Selling Food?

All food vendors for a mass gathering are required to have a Clinton County Health Department operation permit to sell. Go to Food Service Establishments page of this website for information and download the necessary forms to have a food service approved.

Typically, the Clinton County Health Department assigns a sanitarian for the event’s food service so all the food vendors will be working with one sanitarian for the food service permit review process.

Contact Us

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