



State of New Hampshire
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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March 16, 2004

To Recreation Camp Owners and Directors:

As you know, two bills were passed by the Legislature last year to address the situation of campers with asthma and severe allergies. The bills add several sections to the provisions of RSA 485-A relating to youth camps to allow campers to possess and use inhalers (for asthma) or epinephrine auto-injectors (for severe, potentially life-threatening allergies), provided the criteria specified in the statute are met. In addition, the new sections provide protection against liability for recreational camps and their employees if the statutory conditions are met. The Department of Environmental Services supported these provisions and urges you to become familiar with them. Copies are attached for your convenience.

The statutory provisions, codified at RSA 485-A:25-b through RSA 485-A:25-g, became effective August 15, 2003. Compliance with the statutory provisions so as to allow a camper to possess an inhaler or epinephrine auto-injector will supercede any obligation to comply with Env-Ws 1120.20(d) as to those items. If you do not comply with the statutory provisions, then inhalers and epinephrine auto-injectors must be kept with all other medications and prescription drugs in a locked container, in accordance with Env-Ws 1120.20(d).

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact Barbara Thoits at 271-2542 or by e-mail at bthoits@des.state.nh.us.

Sincerely,

Rene Pelletier, Manager
Land Resource Programs