



Appendix D

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Temporary Camp Graywater Use and Handling

The camp produces wastewater, called “graywater” from sinks, showers, baths, laundry, and the kitchen. A clean camp generates, treats and disposes of its wastewater in ways that protect the health of camp occupants and also the great Alaskan environment.

Below are simple rules a camp and its occupants can follow to ensure proper use and handling of the camp’s wastewater.

- Use low-phosphate laundry and dish detergents at the camp.
- The camp’s graywater should not contain kitchen oil, floating solids, foam or garbage.
- Prior to disposing of the graywater, it should be treated through a bag filter or screening to remove (organic) particles from the water. The particles should be disposed of either in a pit privy or in the same manner as other solid wastes generated by the camp.
- The camp’s graywater discharge area is required to be at least 100 feet from a lake, pond, stream or river. Also, a surface discharged graywater must not be directly connected to any surface water by natural channels, gullies, etc.
- A camp makes sure that its occupants stay healthy by limiting access to the wastewater disposal area through fencing, remote location, signage*, etc.
- To prevent erosion and to allow the camp’s wastewater to percolate (or sink) into the soil -- where natural processes will treat and purify it -- the wastewater should not be discharged on a steeply sloping area (>25% slope).
- A surface discharge point should be relocated if solids or slime accumulates on the ground surface and vegetation, or if the vegetation begins to wilt or turn yellow. Moving the discharge hose 10-20 feet may be sufficient to allow the area to recover quickly.

*Laminate or print on Rite-in-Rain paper for posting in camp

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