



John Elias Baldacci
Governor

Maine Department of Health and Human Services

Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
(Formerly Bureau of Health)
Division of Environmental Health
Health Inspection Program
286 Water Street
11 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0011

Brenda M. Harvey
Commissioner

Dora Anne Mills, MD, MPH
Public Health Director
Maine CDC Director

December 12, 2007

Little Sebago Lake Association
P.O. Box 912
North Windham, ME 04062-0912

Board of Directors:

The Department is in receipt of your letter dated August 22, 2007 regarding your expressed concerns about the current situation at Twin Brooks Campground in Gray. I apologize for the delay in my response to you. A meeting was held on September 13, 2007 with Dora Mills, Chris Zukas-Lessard, Rebecca Vigue, Nancy Beardsley, and myself at the request of Elliott Woodbury and Gerry Haines to discuss and address their many concerns regarding Twin Brooks Campground. As we understand from your letter, your specific concerns are the alleged operation of this campground beyond septic system design limits, and operating without a license for most of 2006. You also expressed concern for the lack of enforcement i.e. collection of fines, and the "ongoing" nature of infractions.

Please be aware that the Health Inspection Program takes all concerns and inquiries seriously regarding the conduct of its official business. As you may know, a routine inspection of Twin Brooks Campground was conducted on 8/11/05. The campground was found to be operating additional sites beyond their licensed capacity. Our Health Inspector informed the campground owner that he must apply and receive septic approval prior to operating additional sites. A follow-up compliance letter was sent from this office on 5/11/06 informing Twin Brooks of the illegal expansion and the necessary corrective action. The Health Inspection Program has continued to monitor and work with the campground owners until compliance was reached and a license for 43 sites was issued for the years 2006 and 2007.

The Department's initial goal, with regard to the Twin Brooks Campground is to provide assistance and education to establishments as to the intent of compliance with the Department's rules. The Health Inspection Program staff also tries to work with the establishment owners to gain their cooperation and understanding. It is not the intent of the Department to fine owners that are showing a good faith effort to achieve compliance. Fines are used only as a last resort to gain compliance through enforcement action. Accordingly, the Department believes that the Twin Brooks Campground owners were making ongoing efforts to comply with Departmental rules.

At the request of Mr. Woodbury and Mr. Haines we will conduct an unannounced inspection at the campground during their peak times next season.

Please be advised that future expansions will be addressed accordingly, and we, like stewards, will continue to promote our mutual concerns and protect public health through partnering with the licensee and other stakeholders.

Our vision is Maine people living safe, healthy and productive lives.



John Elias Baldacci
Governor

Maine Department of Health and Human Services

Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
(Formerly Bureau of Health)
Division of Environmental Health
Health Inspection Program
286 Water Street
11 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0011

Brenda M. Harvey
Commissioner

Dora Anne Mills, MD, MPH
Public Health Director
Maine CDC Director

Thank you for taking the time to address your concerns with the Department in these regards. We appreciate your concern for public health, and desire to maintain the stability and water quality of Little Sebago Lake.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly, if you have any questions or if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa M. B.", written over a horizontal line.

Lisa Brown
Supervisor of Public Health Inspectors
Health Inspection Program
Division of Environmental Health
11 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0011
Tel: 287-5691 Fax: 287-3165
E mail: lisa.brown@maine.gov

Cc:

Mark Bryant, State Representative
Debra Cabana, Gray Town Manager
Brenda Harvey, Commissioner DHHS
Dora Mills, MD, MPH Public Health Director, Maine CDC
Nancy Beardsley, Division Director Environmental Health
Laurie Davis, District Health Inspector
Russell Martin, Program Director, Subsurface Wastewater Program
Files