



Department of Human Services

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August 1, 2001,

To: All Family Child Care Providers

From: Melissa Barta, Licensing Social Worker

Re: Use of wading pools in family child care settings

This information has been taken from a newsletter received by all licensors in the state of Minnesota from the Minnesota Department of Human Services Licensing Division:

As many of you are aware, in 1999 the Legislature passed a bill that allowed the use of portable wading pools in Family Child Care Settings. This legislation allowed for the use of wading pools in family child care with some stipulations, including written parental permission. This law was effective May 26, 1999 and included a **sunset date** (expiration date) of **June 30, 2001**. This law was not renewed with the current legislative session, therefore, **as of June 30, 2001 use of wading pools is no longer allowed in family child care**. We revert back to the previous requirements in Rule 2 which states "Any public swimming pool, as defined in Chapter 4717, used by children, must meet the requirements of Chapter 4717."

All pools, including wading pools and swimming pools meet the definition of a public swimming pool in Minnesota Rules, Chapter 4717. In short, swimming pools and wading pools must have a recirculation system, must have the capability to continually disinfect the water and must meet safety requirements, such as having an attendant trained in resuscitation and first aid. **This is not an all inclusive list.** Please view the Rule for further details. You may access the rule on the internet at www.leg.state.mn.us or contact Le Sueur County Environmental Services for a copy of Chapter 4717 at (507) 357-2251.

What this means to you is, if you are utilizing a wading pool or swimming pool (whether above ground or in ground) and it does not meet the requirements in Chapter 4717, **you may no longer use this pool for child care use effective June 30, 2001. Not even if you have parent permission.**

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at (507) 357-2251, Ext. 192 or contact Le Sueur County Environmental Services at (507) 357-2251.

Sincerely,

Melissa Barta, Licensing Social Worker
Le Sueur County Department of Human Services