



Safety Bulletin EM 385-1-1

Mobile District Safety and Occupational Health Office

Bulletin 58-09

Toilet Facilities – Construction Sites

The 15 September 2008 Safety Manual (yellow book) is now in effect for most new contracts and government operations. Please note the changes for toilet facilities as stated below.

02.E.02 Construction Sites. Toilet facilities on construction sites shall be provided as follows (the requirements of this subsection do not apply to mobile crews or to normally unattended work locations if employees working at these locations have transportation immediately available to nearby toilet facilities):

- a. Where sanitary sewers are not available, job sites shall be provided with chemical toilets, re-circulating toilets, or combustion toilets unless prohibited by state/local codes;
- b. Each toilet facility shall be equipped with a toilet seat and toilet seat cover. Each toilet facility - except those specifically designed and designated for females - shall be equipped with a metal, plastic, or porcelain urinal trough. All shall be provided with an adequate supply of toilet paper and a holder for each seat;
- c. Toilets shall be provided for each sex according to Table 2-2. Separate toilet rooms for each sex need not be provided if toilet rooms can only be occupied by one person at a time, can be locked from the inside, and contain at least one toilet seat;
- d. Where it is not practical to provide running water, hand sanitizers may be used as a substitute for running water. (Many hand sanitizers contain flammable liquids and personnel shall be trained regarding their use, storage and safety precautions.);
- e. Toilet facilities shall be constructed so that the occupants are protected against weather and falling objects; all cracks shall be sealed, and the door shall be tight-fitting, self-closing, and capable of being latched;
- f. Adequate ventilation shall be provided and all windows and vents shall be screened; seat boxes shall be vented to the outside (minimum vent size 4 in (10.1 cm)) with vent intake located 1 in (2.5 cm) below the seat;
- g. Toilet facilities shall be constructed so that the interior is lighted; and
- h. Provisions for routinely servicing and cleaning all toilets and disposing of the sewage shall be established before placing toilet facilities into operation. The method of sewage disposal and the placement location selected shall be in accordance with Federal, state, and local health regulations.

> **See EM 385-1-1, Table 2-2 for minimum toilet facilities**

