

## State of Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation

Agency of Natural Resources

Guidance Related to the Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Rules Effective September 29, 2007

> Guidance Document 2008-01 Second Revision<sup>1</sup>

When are Single Family Residences considered to be in Year-round Use?

Issued Christine Thompson

As of July 1, 2007, the conversion of a single family residence from seasonal to year-round use requires a permit. As of September 29, 2007 these conversions are subject to §1-315 of the Wastewater System and Potable Water Supply Rules.

A single family residence that was in existence as of midnight, December 31, 2006 will be considered to be a year-round residence if it has been occupied as a single family residence for at least 180 days in a one year period between December 31, 1986, and December 31, 2006.

If, after December 31, 2006, a year-round residence has been occupied for shorter periods of time, it shall maintain its status as a year-round residence unless there have been specific actions taken to limit the use to seasonal use or to convert the building to other than use as a single family residence. Examples of such limitation include, but are not limited to:

- a deed restriction;
- B. a legal agreement with the municipality in which the building is located to limit or convert the use; or
- C. a building deteriorated to the point where it no longer meets the requirements for being substantially completed and which remains in such a state for a period beyond that allowed for reconstruction of buildings destroyed or voluntarily removed. When a year-round residence has been replaced subject to §1-304(a)(21) of the Rules, it will continue to be classed as a year-round residence.

Notwithstanding the preceding language, some single family residences remained exempt under §1-403(a)(1) and (2) of the January 1, 2005 version of the Rules until July 1, 2007. If such residences had been occupied for at least 180 days in a one year period between December 31, 1986 and July 1, 2007, they will be considered to be year-round residences provided that the conditions of the exemption were met between December 31, 2006 and June 30, 2007.

