

**MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES POLICY & PROCEDURE**

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**Department:** Substance Use Disorders-Four Winds Lodge      **Policy Number:** HHS-SUD-FW 4715

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**Policy Title:** Use of Sage, Cedar, Sweet Grass and Tobacco

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**Attachments:**

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**Revision History:** 5/2017, 1/2018

**Revised by/Date:** Lindsay Misquadace-Berg 7/2021

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**Approved by:**

Lindsay Misquadace-Berg, Four Winds Treatment Director



**Date:**

8/2/2021

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**Approved by:**

Nicole Anderson, Commissioner of HHS



**Date:**

8-8-2021


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**POLICY STATEMENT:** In accordance with Ojibwe cultural and traditional customs, Mille Lacs Band Four Winds Lodge will allow clients to use sage, cedar, sweet grass and tobacco as a part of their treatment program.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this policy is to recognize the importance of the use of sage, sweet grass, cedar and tobacco in the daily spiritual life of American Indians.

**PROCEDURE:**

1. Any client wishing to use sage, cedar, sweet grass or tobacco for spiritual purposes shall consult with a staff member. If necessary, a referral will be made to the Spiritual Advisor for the instruction and appropriateness of the request.
2. Permission to use sage, cedar, sweet grass or tobacco inside the building must be pre-approved by a counselor or staff on duty.
3. The burning/smoldering of sage will only occur in the abalone shell.
4. The fire alarm system will continue to operate as usual. It is important to limit the amount of sage to what is needed to prevent the smoke detectors from alarming.
5. Staff will know where fire extinguishers are located and how to use them.

<b>Internal and/or External References</b>	HHS-BH-HWH 4428
<b>Compliance - Posting Date</b>	8/8/2021 
<b>Replaces - Policy Number</b>	
<b>Next Review - Due Date</b>	8/2024