

BUCKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
RULES AND REGULATIONS
GOVERNING PUBLIC BATHING PLACES



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Table of Contents

Section-One - General Provisions		
1.1	Legal Authority	1
1.2	Provisions	1
1.3	Purpose	1
1.4	Definitions	1
Section Two – Certificates of Registration		
2.1	Certificate of Registration	4
Section Three – General Provisions		
3.1	Posting of Public Information	5
3.2	Information that must be posted or available to the Public On-site	5
3.3	Hot Tubs and Spas Posting of Information	5
3.4	Posting Requirements – Lifeguard Not on Duty	5
3.5	Vomitus and Fecal Contamination Incidents and Unsafe Conditions	6
Section Four – Maintenance of a Public Bathing Place		
4.1	Management of a Public Bathing Place	6
4.2	Water Supply Source	6
4.3	Sewage Disposal	6
4.4	Vector Control	7
4.5	Garbage and Refuse Disposal	7
4.6	Physical Facilities	7
4.7	Operations Manual	7
4.8	Security	7
Section Five – Access and Inspection of a Public Bathing Place		
5.1	Access to Public Bathing Places	8
5.2	Inspections	8
5.3	Reporting of Inspections	8
5.4	License Requirement for Food Services	8
Section Six – Hygiene Requirements		
6.1	Personal Health	8
6.2	Bathing Suits and Towels	8
6.3	Hand Towels, Hand Dryers, Soap Dispensers	9
6.4	Sanitary Conditions Requirements	9
Section Seven – Depth Markings and Safety		
7.1	Location of Depth Markers	9
7.2	Design of Depth Markings	9
7.3	No Diving Areas	9
7.4	Safety Rope	9
7.5	Starting Blocks	9
7.6	Water Slides, Diving Boards, Rock Wall and other Attached Fixtures	10
7.7	Anti-siphon Protection	10

Section Eight – Electrical Safety

8.1	National Electrical Code	10
8.2	Electrical Wiring	10
8.3	Electrical Conductors	10
8.4	Metal Fencing	11
8.5	Grounding Requirements for Water and other Piping	11
8.6	Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI)	11
8.7	Limited Access to Mechanical Equipment	11
8.8	Electrical Inspections	11
8.9	Lighting	11

Section Nine – Circulation and Filtration

9.1	Adequate Circulation	11
9.2	Recirculation and Filtration	12
9.3	Turnover Periods (Turnover Calculations – See Appendix	12
9.4	Overflow Facilities and Bottom Cleaning	12
9.5	Color Coding of Exposed Piping	12
9.6	Recirculation and Filtration Equipment	12
9.7	Flow Meters	12
9.8	Discharge of Filter Backwash or Pool Drainage Effluent	12

Section Ten – Water Quality

10.1	Disinfection Equipment	13
10.2	Pesticide Certification	13
10.3	Required Disinfection Levels	13
10.4	The Maintenance of PH	14
10.5	Test Kits	14
10.6	Temperature	14
10.7	Water Clarity	14
10.8	Gas Chlorination	15
10.9	Access to Disinfectant Equipment & Chemicals	15
10.10	Salt Electrolytic Chlorine Generators, Brine Electrolytic Chlorine or Bromine	15
10.11	Safety Data Sheets (SDS)	15

Section Eleven - Bacteriology

11.1	Bacteriological	15
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Section Twelve – Reporting of Water Quality Test Results

12.1	Required Water Quality Testing	16
12.2	Reporting Requirements	16

Section Thirteen - Lifeguards

13.1	Certified Lifeguards	17
13.2	Exemption from having Certified Lifeguards	17
13.3	Proper Positioning of a Lifeguard While on Duty	17
13.4	Required Number of Lifeguards	17
13.5	Lifeguard Qualifications	18
13.6	Educational, Instructional and Competitive Use of Public Bathing Places	18
13.7	Criteria for Certification of a Lifeguard	19
13.8	Life Saving Devices	19

	Section Fourteen – Reportable Diseases and Injuries	
14.1	Swimming Related Injuries	19
14.2	Disease Reporting	19
	Section Fifteen – Public Bathing Place Closures	
15.1	Closures	20
	Section Sixteen – Plan Review and Equipment Modifications	
16.1	Construction Permits for Public Bathing Places	21
16.2	PA Department of Health Certificate to Operate	21
16.3	Physical Plant Specifications	21
16.4	Bathing Beaches	21
	Section Seventeen - Variances	
17.1	Modifications and Waivers	21
17.2	Documentation of Proposed Variances and Justification	21
17.3	Failure to Comply With Said Variance	22
	Section Eighteen – Administrative Hearings and Meetings	
18.1	Administrative Hearings	22
18.2	Administrative Meetings	22
	Section Nineteen - Severability	
19.1	Severability	22
	Section Twenty – Penalty Provisions	
20.1	Summary Offense	22
20.2	Misdemeanor Offense	23
20.3	Prosecution	23

Appendices see page 24

BUCKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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SECTION ONE – GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1 Legal Authority

Under the provisions of the “Local Health Administration Law,” Act No. 315 approved August 24, 1951, P.L. 1304 (16 P.S. §§ 12001-12028), Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act, Act No. 537, 1966, January 24, P.L. (1965) 1535 §1, effective July 1, 1967, amended 1976, December 2, P.L. 1264, No. 280 (35 P.S. §§ 750-1-750.20a) Pennsylvania Safe Drinking Water Act 1984, May 1, P..L. 206, No. 43 (35 P.S. §§ 721.1-721.17) Chapter 109 adopted September 2, 1971, Title 28, Chapter 18, Public Swimming and Bathing Places, adopted September 18, 1971 as amended.

1.2 Provisions

The provisions of these Rules and Regulations shall apply to all municipalities in Bucks County within the jurisdiction of the Department and shall apply equally to all public bathing places within Bucks County.

1.3 Purpose

The purpose of these Rules and Regulations is to establish minimum standards for the operation of public bathing places for the protection of the health and welfare of the general public.

1.4 Definitions

The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation of these Rules & Regulations:

- a) **Air Gap** – The unobstructed vertical distance through the free atmosphere between the lowest opening from a pipe or faucet supplying water to a tank, plumbing fixture or other device and the flood level rim of the receptacle.
- b) **Backflow** – The flow of water or other liquids, mixtures or substances into the distributing pipes of a potable supply of water from a source other than the approved source.
- c) **Certified Lifeguard** – An individual who has a current certificate in lifeguarding, issued by a lifeguard certifying authority, as recognized by PA Department of Health.
- d) **Certificate of Registration** – Is a document issued by the Bucks County Department of Health indicating this facility is in compliance with these rules and regulations.
- e) **Cross Connection** – A physical connection or arrangement between two otherwise separate piping systems, one of which contains potable water and the other steam gas, cooling water, chemical, or water of unknown or questionable safety, whereby there may be a flow from one system to the other, the direction depending on the pressure differential between the two systems.
- f) **Department** –The Bucks County Department of Health.

- g) **EEBA** - Emergency escape breathing apparatus.
- h) **Garbage** – All putrescible wastes, except sewage and body waste.
- i) **Hot Tub/Spa** - A structure, designed to contain water, having a maximum depth of 48 inches used in conjunction with water recirculation systems or air injection, and utilizing, hot, cold, or ambient temperature water which is not emptied after each individual use.
- j) **Hyperchlorination** - the intentional and specific raising of chlorine levels for a prolonged period of time to inactivate pathogens following a fecal or vomit release in a public bathing place. See Hyperchlorination Procedures in the Appendices.
- k) **Maximum Bather Load** – The maximum number of bathers that the public bathing place is designed to accommodate.
- l) **National Electrical Code** – The National Electrical Code published by the National Fire Protection Association.
- m) **Person** – Shall include any individual, landowner (which is defined as any person holding title to or having a proprietary or equitable interest in either surface or subsurface rights), landlord, lessor, land occupier (including but not limited to easement owner, tenant, lessee or occupant of a structure or land, whether the landowner or not), any corporation, including public or private corporation for profit or not for profit, association, partnership, firm, trust, trustee, estate, executor, executrix, administrator, administratrix or other fiduciaries, department, board, bureau or agency of the Commonwealth, political subdivision, municipality, district, authority or any other legal entity whatsoever which is recognized by law as the subject of rights and duties, and any agent for any individual or corporation or other legal entity set forth above. Whenever used in any clause prescribing and imposing a penalty or imposing a fine or imprisonment the term “Person” shall include all of the above set forth individuals and entities as well as members, officers, and/or employees of any corporation, an association, partnership or firm and the officers, directors of any local agency, municipality, municipal authority and/or political subdivision and the supervisors, councilmen, of any political subdivision public or private corporation for profit or not for profit.
- n) **Public Bathing Place** – An outdoor or indoor place used for amateur, professional or recreational swimming or bathing, or any other venue where the public may be exposed to water for the purposes of recreation (i.e. spray areas). This is regardless of whether or not a fee is charged for the use of the bathing place and exclusive of a bathing place at a private, single-family residence which is used solely by the owner of the residence, their family and their personal guests. This term is inclusive of all public bathing places that are required to have a “Certificate of Registration” issued by the Department to operate in Bucks County.
- o) **Recreational Swimming Establishment** – A bathing place that is designed, constructed or designated for use by the general public for the primary purpose of swimming or other forms of aquatic recreation when a fee is charged for admission. Lifeguards are required due to this facility being licensed.
 - 1) The term includes swimming pools, water slides, wave pools and swimming beaches and other outdoor swimming facilities/venues.

- 2) The term **excludes** those facilities owned by condominiums, other property owner associations, rental arrangements that include three or more families or social units, hotels, or motels, campgrounds, private clubs and private organizations which do not provide access to the general public, swimming facilities used exclusively for hydro therapy and residential swimming facilities used solely by the owner of a residence, the owner's family and personal guests. However, camps are NOT exempt from the requirement to have certified lifeguard(s) on duty unless granted a specific written exemption by this Department.
- p) **Refuse** – All non-putrescible wastes generally regarded and classified as rubbish, trash, junk and similar designations which have been rejected by a person.
- q) **Rope and Float Line** – A continuous line, at least 1/4 inch in diameter, that is supported by buoys and attached to opposite sides of a swimming pool.
- r) **Sewage** – Any substance that contains the waste products or excrements or other discharges from the bodies of human beings or animals and any noxious or deleterious substances being harmful or inimical to the public health, or to animal or aquatic life or to the use for domestic water supply or for recreation or which constitutes pollution under The Clean Streams Law, Act of June 22, 1937 (P.L.1937, No. 394), (35 P.S. §§ 691.1-691-1001). The term shall include, but not be limited to, toilet, lavatory, kitchen or laundry waste water, liquid waste and seepage from floor drains, liquid waste from sink drains from any structure including any trailers, campers, motor homes or recreational vehicles, garbage cans, dumpsters or compactors and the cleaning waste from these garbage storage containers.
- s) **Sewage System** – An individual or community sewage system, whether publicly or privately owned, for the collection and disposal of sewage or industrial waters of a liquid nature, including various devices for the treatment of sewage or incidental wastes.
- t) **Source** – A well, spring, stream, reservoir, river, lake or pond from which water is taken either intermittently or continuously for use by the public.
- u) **Spray Pool** – A structure for use by children which is designed to collect and channel water sprayed in the air to a recirculation system or to waste without accumulating to any depth.
- v) **Superchlorination** – is the raising of free chlorine levels for water quality maintenance; such as the addition of large quantities of chlorine-based chemicals to kill algae, destroy odors, or improve the ability to maintain a disinfectant residual.
- w) **Swimming Pool/Aquatic Venue** – A body of water of a size in relation to the bathing load that the quality and quantity of the water confined must be mechanically controlled for the purpose of disinfection and contained in an impervious structure.
- x) **Standard Methods** – Standard methods for the Examination of Water & Wastewater Prepared jointly by American Public Health Association, American Water Works Association, and Water Environment Federation, 21st Edition, 2005.
- y) **Vectors** – Any rodent, insect or other animal, which is capable of carrying or harboring a disease infectious to humans.
- z) **Turnover Period** – The number of hours required to completely replenish the water in a pool or recirculate a quantity of water equal to the capacity of the pool.

- aa) **Wading Pool** – A body of water designed for use by children which is no deeper than 3 feet and of a size in relation to the bathing load that the quality and quantity of the water confined must be mechanically controlled for the purpose of disinfection and contained in an impervious structure.
- bb) **Water of this Commonwealth** – Any and all rivers, streams, creeks, riverlets, impoundings, ditches, water courses, storm sewers, lakes, dammed water, ponds, springs and all other bodies or channels of conveyance of surface and underground water, or any of their parts, whether natural or artificial, within or on the boundaries of this Commonwealth
- cc) **Water Slide** – A flume designed to convey a recreational bather, with or without the aid of a device on which the bather may ride, from an elevated starting point to a pool of water or level deceleration area.
- dd) **Water Supply** – A source or sources of water which is used for drinking water and all water treatment facilities and distribution facilities which serve a public bathing place.
- ee) **Wave Pool** – A structure, designed to contain water, used for bathing or swimming in conjunction with a wave-making mechanism, together with buildings, appurtenances and equipment used in connection therewith.
- ff) **Whirlpool** - A structure which is designed to contain water for the submersion of part or all of the body; is used solely for therapeutic purposes; lacks filtration and recirculation; is designed primarily for the use of one person at a time; and is completely drained once every twenty-four (24) hours.
- gg) **Safe Drinking Water Act** – The Act of May 1, 1984 (P.L. 206, No. 43) (35 P.S. §§ 721.1-721.17) known as the Pennsylvania Safe Drinking Water Act and associated regulations.
- hh) **Sewage Regulations** – The Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act, Act 537 (P.L. 1535 No. 537) (35 P.S. §§ 750.1-750.20) as amended, appropriate 25 PA Code Chapters 71, 72, 73, the Bucks County Department of Health Rules and Regulations Governing Individual and Community On-Lot Sewage Disposal systems, and the Bucks County Department of Health Rules and Regulations related to Public Health Nuisances.

SECTION TWO – CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

2.1 Certificate of Registration

- a) All existing and proposed public bathing places located in Bucks County are required to obtain a Certificate of Registration from the Bucks County Department of Health. Each year every owner/operator of a public bathing place in Bucks County must submit a SA-125, "Application for a Public Bathing Place Certificate of Registration" and appropriate fee prior to the expiration of their current "Certificate of Registration" in order to renew said Registration. NOTE: The Certificate of Registration will cover all pools including wading, diving, racing, infant, water slides, hot tubs, etc. that are operated at a particular site.
- b) This Department may choose to exempt certain bathing places from having a Certificate of Registration to operate, such as spray recreational areas, which are

not required to be permitted by the PA Department of Health and where public water and sewer facilities are being utilized and continual disinfection is not required.

SECTION THREE – GENERAL PROVISIONS

3.1 Posting of Public Information

The owner/operator of a public bathing place, hot tub or spa shall publically post the following information:

- a) Posting of User Load, Maximum number of patrons permitted in the pool. This must also be posted in meeting rooms, elevators or hallways leading to the pool.
- b) Copy of the Bucks County Department of Health “Certificate of Registration.”
- c) All pool rules shall be legibly stated on a sign in at least one conspicuous location within the pool area. See the appendix for the required pool rules.
- d) “Pool Closed” sign shall be posted whenever the facilities are not open for use.

3.2 Public Information that must be posted or available to the Public at the site

- a) Copy of the most recent bacteriological monitoring results.
- b) Copy of the lifeguard’s certification, first aid certification and cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification.
- c) Copy of the current electrical certificate.
- d) A copy of all applicable Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for chemicals used at the pool facility.
- e) Copy of the State Bathing Place Certificate to Operate.
- f) Copy of the “Bucks County Department of Health’s Rules and Regulations Governing Public Bathing Places”.

3.3 Hot Tubs and Spas Posting of Information

Hot tubs and spas shall be posted with the following information:

- a) For medical reasons, children under the age of 5 with or without adult supervision shall not be allowed in a spa. People using drugs or alcohol that cause drowsiness shall not use spas.
- b) Pregnant women and people with heart disease, high blood pressure or other health problems should not use SPAS without prior consultation with a healthcare provider.

3.4 Posting Requirements – Lifeguard Not On Duty

Whenever a public bathing place area is opened for use and no lifeguard service is provided (see requirements for life guards, Section 13), warning signs shall be placed in plain view of the entrances and inside the pool area which state, “WARNING – NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY” at least 4 inches in height. In addition, the signs shall also state in clearly legible lettering at least 2 inches in height “NO SWIMMING ALONE. CHILDREN AND NON-SWIMMERS SHALL NOT USE THE POOL UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY A RESPONSIBLE ADULT”. In addition, a sign must post; “the Hours of Operation; and that the Aquatic facility use is prohibited at any other time.”

3.5 Vomitus and Fecal Contamination Incidents and Unsafe Conditions

All public bathing places shall post signs at the facility entrance(s) stating “Report all incidents including vomitus, diarrhea, fecal contamination or unsafe conditions to the management of the facility immediately.”

SECTION FOUR – MAINTENANCE OF A PUBLIC BATHING PLACE

4.1 Management of a Public Bathing Place

A pesticide certified person or pool service company shall be in charge of the public bathing place and shall be responsible for maintaining the public bathing place in good repair and in a clean, sanitary and healthful manner as provided in the Public Bathing Law (35 P.S §§ 672-680d), in accordance with the Certificate of Registration issued for the public bathing place and these regulations.

4.2 Water Supply Source

- (a) The quality of the water supply at a public bathing place used for drinking, food preparation, cleaning, and personal hygiene shall at all times meet the standards of the PA Safe Drinking Water Act.
- (b) When a community public water supply operated under permit from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) is available to the public bathing place it shall be used in place of a private water supply.
- (c) If a community public water supply is not available to the public bathing place, a non-community water system can be used that is constructed, maintained and operated in accordance with 25 PA Code, Chapter 109 Safe Drinking Water.
- (d) No physical connections shall be maintained between a public community water supply and a non-community water supply.
- (e) Water introduced into the pool, either directly or to the recirculation system, shall be supplied through an air gap. The air gap between the free flowing discharge end of a potable water supply line, faucet, plumbing fixture, or other device and the flood level rim of an open or non-pressure receiving vessel shall be at least two (2) times the diameter of the pipe supplying the water.

4.3 Sewage Disposal

All sewage generated by a public bathing place shall be disposed of by one of the following methods approved by this Department:

- a) An approved public sewage treatment plant that is permitted by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP).
- b) An individual on-lot sewage disposal system that is sized, constructed, maintained and operated according to Section 7 of the Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act (Act 537) (35 P.S. §§ 750.1-750.20) PA Code Title 25, Chapter 73 and the Department’s “Rules and Regulations Governing Individual and Community On-Lot Sewage Disposal Systems”.
- c) If an approved municipal public sewer system is available, the public bathing place shall be connected to it and be used instead of any type of on-lot sewage disposal system or other method of sewage disposal.

4.4 Vector Control

- a) Effective measures to control the presence of rodents, flies, cockroaches and other insects or vectors on the public bathing place premises shall be utilized. Pesticide application, when necessary, shall be conducted by a certified pest control applicator/operator and in accordance with the pesticide label and all required federal and state laws. The public bathing place premises shall be kept in such condition as to eliminate the harborage, food and water conditions conducive to insect, rodent or other vector infestation.
- b) If a public bathing place incurs a violation of Section 4.4a, the Department may require the implementation of an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM).

4.5 Garbage and Refuse Disposal

- a) The storage, collection and disposal of garbage and refuse from a public bathing place shall be conducted so as to avoid the creation of public health hazards and nuisance conditions.
- b) Every public bathing place shall be responsible for the proper storage, collection and disposal of all garbage generated by pool staff and bathing place patrons.
- c) All public bathing places shall be kept free of litter, garbage and refuse at all times.

4.6 Physical Facilities

The Physical Facilities, as approved by the regulatory authority(s), must be maintained in good working order. Any modifications or additions to the physical facilities must first be approved by the regulatory authority(s).

4.7 Operations Manual

Every facility must have an Operations Manual on hand at the facility. This manual must include a Routine Maintenance Plan (RMP), which is a list of necessary tasks which must be performed each day, as well as throughout the season, to ensure that the facility functions as it was designed. An example of a RMP and other pertinent information that must be included in the Operations Manual can be found in the Appendix. In addition, the entire Appendix can be printed out to provide many necessary components of the required Operations and Maintenance Plan, as well as to provide a guide to what should be in the facilities O&M Plan. In all cases the Operations Manual must be kept as brief and user friendly as possible.

4.8 Security

All outdoor public bathing places, hot tubs and spas shall have a means of being physically closed to patrons during non-operating hours when supervision is not provided. The facility must be completely surrounded by a fence or wall designed to prevent entrance during hours of closure. Fencing installation shall meet local municipal ordinances and permitting requirements as specified by the municipality where the public bathing place is located. All entrances to the pool shall be provided with a self-closing and self-locking gate with a lock. Indoor pools, which may be used for activities unrelated to the pool, shall be made secure to assure that all unauthorized persons can be excluded from the facility when it is not in operation.

SECTION FIVE – ACCESS AND INSPECTION OF A PUBLIC BATHING PLACE

5.1 Access to Public Bathing Places

In order to carry out the purpose and provisions of these Regulations, a Department representative, upon showing proper identification, shall be permitted to enter and inspect the public bathing place's records and equipment at all reasonable times when the facility is open or during an emergency. The owner, manager, operator, employee or any person in charge of the facility shall provide free access to records, permits, certificates and other materials which directly relate to the operation of the public bathing place.

5.2 Inspections

Every public bathing place will be inspected annually by a Department representative to determine compliance with these Rules and Regulations. Department representatives shall conduct as many inspections of the public bathing place as necessary to determine compliance with these Rules and Regulations. A regulatory service fee may be charged by the Department for any compliance inspections that are required after an initial inspection has been conducted by the Department.

5.3 Reporting of Inspections

- a) Whenever the Department conducts an inspection of a public bathing place, the findings shall be recorded on the appropriate inspection report form. The inspection form shall summarize the violations based upon these Rules and Regulations, including the correction(s) to be made and the date of compliance.
- b) Violations of a critical nature and/or a direct threat to an individual's public health shall be corrected immediately or the operation of the public bathing place must cease until the violation(s) have been corrected.
- c) The results of the inspection shall be reviewed with the person in charge, signed by that person and be sent electronically to the person in charge.

5.4 License Requirement for Food Services

- a) Whenever food service is provided within a public bathing place, the food operation shall be licensed by the Department and comply with the current food safety regulations.
- b) If only prepackaged, non-time/temperature control for safety (TCS) foods are sold, a food license is not required from this Department.

SECTION SIX– HYGIENE REQUIREMENTS

6.1 Personal Health

No person with signs of illness or communicable disease may enter a public bathing place unless certified by a physician not to have a disease in a communicable stage.

6.2 Bathing Suits and Towels

Bathing suits and towels furnished to bathers shall be thoroughly cleaned and dried each time they are used in such a manner as to preclude the transmission of diseases and shall be stored in a clean and sanitary manner.

6.3 Hand Towels, Hand Dryers, Soap Dispensers

The owner or operator of every public bathing place shall provide single-use hand towels or hand dryers and soap dispensers with soap at the hand wash sinks and toilet paper in each restroom stall.

6.4 Sanitary Conditions Requirements

- a) The locker rooms, lavatories, restrooms, dressing rooms and all other areas of the public bathing facility shall be maintained in a clean, safe and sanitary condition.
- b) Spas shall be drained, cleaned, scrubbed, and water replaced as often as necessary.

SECTION SEVEN – DEPTH MARKINGS AND SAFETY

7.1 Location of Depth Markers

The depth of water shall be plainly marked at or above the water surface on the vertical pool wall and on the edge of the deck, at points of change in bottom slope and spaced at not more than 25 ft. intervals. Markings should be on both the sides and ends of the pool. Where depth markings cannot be placed on the vertical walls above the water level, other means shall be used so that the depth markings will be plainly visible to the persons in the pool.

7.2 Design of Depth Markings

Depth markings shall be indicated in feet and inches, or they may be indicated in meter depths. They shall be shown in numerals, and the units of depth shall be indicated as follows: (1) feet or ft. (2) inches or in. (3) meters or m. No other designations are acceptable. The English numbers and units shall be a minimum of four (4) inches in height, while metric numbers and units, if used shall be approximately half the height of the English markings. Both English and Metric numbers and units shall have colors which contrast with the background.

7.3 No Diving Areas

In all areas of the pool where the water depth is less than five (5) feet, the words “No Diving-Shallow Water” shall be clearly marked on the pool deck with all letters of acceptable contrasting color of at least four (4) inches in height. The warnings shall be placed every 25 feet around the shallow portion of the pool.

7.4 Safety Rope

A safety rope and buoys with buoy keepers shall be attached to the pool wall one (1) to two (2) feet toward the shallow end of the pool from the pool floor breakpoint separating the shallow and deep areas of the pool. The safety rope shall be securely anchored and recessed into the pool wall. It shall have corrosion resistant fixtures, be of sufficient size and strength to provide a handhold and be able to support an adult bather with their head above water.

7.5 Starting Blocks

- a) The recreational non-competitive use of starting blocks are strictly prohibited. Access to starting blocks shall be physically restricted during the recreational/non-competitive use of a bathing place.

- b) Starting blocks shall be used only during supervised swimming competitions and practices.
 - 1) For bathing places constructed prior to June 1989, the use of starting blocks for swimming competitions and practices must comply with standards by a national recognized governing body such as the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), United States Swimming, National Federation of States High School Associations (NF) or equivalent.
 - 2) For bathing places constructed after June 1989, starting blocks shall be so designed and installed so that they can be easily removed from the pool and deck when not being used by competitive swimming and shall be located at the deepest end of the lane.

7.6 Water Slides, Diving Boards, Rock Walls and Other Attached Fixtures

Swimming Pool/Aquatic Venue water slides, diving boards and rock walls, etc. must be installed and utilized as per the approved plans. This Department reserves the right to make additional safety requirements as deemed necessary to ensure the health and safety of the users of these recreational fixtures.

7.7 Anti-siphon Protection

- a) Every pool, spa, hot tub or other bathing place/aquatic facility shall comply with the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act. See attached Appendix for additional information.
- b) The owner of every bathing place shall keep on record the make and model number and date of installation for every anti-siphon drain cover installed in each spa, hot tub, pool or other aquatic venue which requires that one be present. In addition, the date of expiration of each anti-siphon drain cover must be kept with the information of each individual drain cover so that the owner/operator knows when these units need to be replaced.

SECTION EIGHT – ELECTRICAL SAFETY

8.1 National Electrical Code

All electrical wires, outlets, appliances and devices shall be designed and installed in accordance with the most recent versions of the National Electrical Code.

8.2 Electrical Wiring

All electrical wiring, when exposed and accessible to bathers, shall be in rigid conduit or electrical plastic or metal tubing and all boxes, fittings, and accessories used in damp or wet locations shall be installed and equipped so as to prevent the entrance of water.

8.3 Electrical Conductors

No insulated or uninsulated electrical conductors or wires shall cross over any portion of an indoor or outdoor public bathing place, hot tub or spa, except ceiling lighting of sufficient height above the surface of the water and the pool deck around the pool facility to prevent bathers from contacting the fixtures.

8.4 Metal Fencing

All metal fences, railings or other appurtenances on which a broken electrical conductor or wire might fall shall be effectively grounded.

8.5 Grounding Requirements for Water and Other Piping

All water and other piping to and from a public bathing place, hot tub or spa, including inlet and outlet pipes shall be metallically bonded together and adequately connected to the same grounding electrode used to ground the neutral conductor of the electrical system. This shall be in addition to the grounding requirements for electrical equipment and circuits as required by the National Electrical Code.

8.6 Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI)

All electrical equipment and wiring shall be equipped with ground fault circuit interrupters.

8.7 Limited Access to Mechanical Equipment

All pumps, filters, other mechanical and electrical equipment shall be enclosed in such a manner as to be accessible only to authorized persons.

8.8 Electrical Inspections

All electrical installations at public bathing places, hot tubs or spas and any future additions or modifications to these installations, prior to being placed into service and every three (3) years thereafter shall be inspected and approved by a licensed electrical inspection agency. The electrical inspection conducted shall meet the standards of the National Electrical Code. A duplicate copy of the inspection certificate and the results shall be forwarded to this Department by the bathing place owner/operator or directly by the electrical inspection agency.

8.9 Lighting

Artificial indirect lighting shall be provided at all swimming pools which are to be used at night or which do not have adequate natural lighting so that all portions of the pool, including the bottom, may be readily seen without glare or railing reflections. Underwater lights in public bathing places, regardless of the installation date shall comply and meet the requirements for underwater light as specified in the National Electrical Code.

If electrical defects in the underwater lights are noted by the electrical inspection agency, the lights shall be disconnected immediately to prevent electrical shock or electrocution of pool patrons. The lights must be repaired or removed within 30 days of written notice. A copy of this report shall be forwarded to the Department immediately by the owner/operator or the electrical inspection agency.

SECTION NINE – CIRCULATION AND FILTRATION

9.1 Adequate Circulation

Water shall be introduced to and withdrawn from a public bathing place, hot tub or spa so as to provide adequate, uniform circulation at all times.

9.2 Recirculation and Filtration

All public bathing places, hot tubs, and spas shall be provided with a recirculation and filtration system capable of maintaining bacteriological, chemical and physical standards established by these Regulations. Filters shall be backwashed/cleaned and maintained according to the manufacturer's instructions.

9.3 Turnover Periods

The following shall be the minimum required turnover period/time, unless the approved design specifies a different turnover period. The turnover time/period (minutes) shall be calculated by the total volume of water (gallons) divided by the flow rate (gallons per minute) through the filtration process. To obtain turnover time in hours, divide the turnover time in minutes by 60.

- a) The turnover period for Activity Pools, wading pools, spray pools, and zero-depth entry areas shall be two (2) hours or less.
- b) The turnover period for a wave pool shall be two (2) hours or less.
- c) The turnover period for hot tubs and spas shall be thirty (30) minutes or less.
- d) The turnover period for all other public bathing places shall be eight (8) hours or less.

9.4 Overflow Facilities and Bottom Cleaning

Skimmers or a perimeter overflow system (gutters) shall be provided and water levels maintained to effectively remove scum, debris or other floating matter. The bottom of the public bathing place, hot tub or spa shall be vacuumed or otherwise strained clean as frequently as necessary to keep the bottom free of all foreign materials.

9.5 Color Coding of Exposed Piping

All exposed piping within the filtration room of the public bathing facility shall be color coded with directional arrows indicating the direction of flow. Where two colors do not have sufficient contrast to easily differentiate between them, a six (6) inch band of contrasting color shall be painted on one pipe approximately in 30 inch intervals.

9.6 Recirculation and Filtration Equipment

All filtration and recirculating equipment shall be designed to be readily accessible and have sufficient clearance from walls and ceiling to permit adjustment, maintenance, inspection and replacement.

9.7 Flow Meters

A flow meter or other device must be provided to continuously measure flow rate in the recirculation system. The indicator shall have a range of readings appropriate for the anticipated flow rate and be located where it is readily accessible for reading and maintenance and installed according to manufacturer's recommendations.

9.8 Discharge of Filter Backwash or Pool Drainage Effluent

All discharges from filter backwash events, or drainage from the pool/aquatic venue shall be discharged as per the guidelines listed in the Appendix pertaining to "Discharge of Aquatic Bathing Place/Swimming Pool Water" unless otherwise noted in these regulations.

SECTION TEN – WATER QUALITY (SEE THE APPENDIX FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION)

10.1 Disinfection Equipment

All public bathing places, hot tubs, and spas must be equipped with an approved device or devices to provide continuous disinfection to prevent the growth of pathogenic organisms. Such equipment shall meet the standards as set forth by the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) Standard #50 “Swimming Pool, Spa and Hot Tub Circulation System Components”. **All public bathing places, hot tubs and spas shall maintain an adequate, uniform disinfection residual at all times.**

10.2 Pesticide Certification

By Commonwealth Regulatory requirement, applicators of general use pesticides-including chlorine, bromine, and algaecides must obtain Pesticide Applicator Certification including Category 24 for Swimming Pools, through the PA Department of Agriculture prior to applying chemicals (i.e. disinfectants, algaecides, water treatment products) to the bathing place. Information concerning this requirement can be found in the Appendix of these Rules and Regulations.

Any violations of these items listed under this Section will be forwarded to the appropriate agency by this Department for follow-up and possible legal action.

10.3 Required Disinfection and other Chemical Levels

a) Public Bathing Place

- Where chlorine gas, calcium hypochlorite, sodium hypochlorite or lithium hypochlorite is used for disinfection, the free chlorine residual in the water in all parts of the pool shall be not less than 1.0 ppm (mg/l) nor more than 10.0 ppm.
- When bromine is used for disinfection, the free bromine residual in the water in all parts of the pool shall be not less than 3.0 ppm (mg/l) nor more than 8.0 ppm.

b) Hot Tubs and Spas

- When chlorine gas, calcium hypochlorite, sodium hypochlorite, or lithium hypochlorite is used for disinfection, the free chlorine residual in the water of the hot tub or spa shall be not less than 3.0 ppm (mg/l) nor more than 10.0 ppm.
- Where bromine is used for disinfection, the free bromine residual in the water of the hot tub or spa shall be not less than 4.0 ppm (mg/l) nor more than 8.0 ppm.
- All hot tubs and spas, regardless of the standard disinfection, shall be super chlorinated weekly to 10.0 ppm free chlorine. If the hot tub or spa is drained, cleaned and scrubbed at least once per week, the operator is exempt from the requirements of this subsection.

c) Cyanuric Acid (Outdoor Application Only**)**

- When cyanuric acid is used as a stabilizer, the concentration may not exceed 90 ppm in the public bathing place and must be checked monthly. Also, when using cyanuric acid the free chlorine residual must be at least 2.0 ppm and may not exceed 10.0 ppm. Cyanuric acid is intended to reduce the loss of free chlorine that is caused by the sun’s UV rays. Therefore, cyanuric acid

and any stabilized chlorine product should not be used in indoor pools, hot tubs or spas.

d) Combined Available Chlorine (Chloramines)

- Combined Chloramines (total chlorine minus free available chlorine) must be checked daily and the owner shall ensure that the public bathing place takes action to reduce the level of combined chlorine (chloramines) in the water when the level exceeds 0.4 ppm (mg/l).

e) Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)

The Total Dissolved Solids shall be below 2500 ppm and must be checked quarterly at all bathing places.

f) Total Alkalinity Levels

Total alkalinity shall be maintained in the range of 60 to 180 ppm (mg/l) and must be tested weekly at all bathing places.

g) Calcium Hardness

Calcium hardness shall not exceed 2500 ppm (mg/l) and shall be checked monthly at all bathing places.

h) Other Types of Disinfectants or Sanitizers

Any other types of disinfectants or sanitizers that are proposed for a public bathing place that are not listed in these Regulations must be approved by this Department prior to being used.

10.4 The Maintenance of pH

The pH of all Bathing Places, Hot Tubs and Spas must be maintained between 7.2 and 7.8.

10.5 Test Kits

Testing kits shall be provided for making the necessary tests for residual disinfection and pH. The kit for disinfection residual shall be accurate within 0.5 milligram per liter (mg/l) of chlorine or equivalent. The pH kit shall be accurate within 0.2 pH units. Test kits must be specifically designed for the particular disinfectant and pH measurements. All disinfectant monitoring shall be performed using the diethyl-p-phenylenediamine (DPD) test method.

10.6 Temperature

The temperature of the water in any public bathing place, hot tub or spa shall not exceed 104°F.

10.7 Water Clarity

All water in a public bathing place, hot tub or spa shall be sufficiently clear to permit the bottom of the deepest portion to be readily visible from pool side. Water clarity shall be determined by meeting one of the following criteria.

- (a) A black disk six (6) inches in diameter on a white field placed at the point which is greatest in depth is clearly visible from the deck around the deep area.
- (b) The protective cover over the main drain is clearly visible from the deck around the deep area. The protective cover over the main drain shall be painted a contrasting color in relationship to the color of the pool floor.

10.8 Gas Chlorination

Whenever gas chlorination equipment is in use; all equipment, required safety gear and facilities shall be maintained as per the approved facility design along with all necessary safety requirements. This includes all records which must be kept to ensure that the equipment and facility are being operated as required. Details concerning the presence and use of all gas chlorination operational and safety equipment must be included in the facilities' required Operations Manual, and must be overseen by a trained operator.

10.9 Access to and use of Disinfectant Equipment & Chemicals

All types of disinfectant, chemicals, algaecides, etc. shall be certified, listed, and labeled to either NSF/ANSI Standard 50 or NSF/ANSI Standard 60 by an ANSI-accredited certification organization, and/or have an EPA FIFRA registration and be used only in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. It shall also be stored/installed, including application equipment, in such a manner as to prevent access by unauthorized persons at all times. In addition, all disinfection and pH chemicals shall be introduced through the recirculation system. Superchlorination or shock chemicals and other pool chemicals, other than for disinfection and pH control, may be added manually to the pool, but only in the absence of bathers.

10.10 Salt Electrolytic Chlorine Generators, Brine Electrolytic Chlorine or Bromine

The saline content of the pool shall be maintained in the required range as specified by the manufacturer. Only pool grade salt which is certified, listed, and labeled to either NSF/ANSI Standard 50 or NSF/ANSI Standard 60 by an ANSI-accredited certification organization, and/or have an EPA FIFRA registration shall be used. All equipment shall be maintained as per the manufacturer and approved plans.

10.11 Safety Data Sheets (SDS)

Copies of SDS sheet for all pool chemicals must be maintained in conformity with the requirements of the Federal Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). All disinfection and pH chemicals and Superchlorination or shock chemicals and other pool chemicals must be used as per their approved manufacturer's directions.

SECTION ELEVEN – BACTERIOLOGY

11.1 Bacteriological

All public bathing places, hot tubs and spas shall be maintained in such a manner as to assure that the bacteriological quality of the water meets or exceeds the standards established by this Department and the Commonwealth.

- a) The water quality in a public bathing place, hot tub or spa shall be determined through the collection and analysis of water samples for the presence of coliform bacteria and heterotrophic plate count in accordance with Standard Methods procedures approved by a laboratory certified by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP).
- b) This Department reserves the right to require that water test samples taken from a public bathing place be collected and analyzed by a laboratory representative.
- c) The water in a public bathing place, hot tub or spa shall be considered contaminated and unsafe for swimming or use by the public whenever any sample is found to have more than one (1) organism of the coliform group.

- d) A standard plate count of greater than 1000 CFU/ML is considered to be an indicator of bathing place water contamination. Whenever any sample is found to exceed this threshold, the bathing place shall be closed at the end of the day (if not sooner) and the Superchlorination Procedure in the appendix must be completed. The bathing place may also be drained, cleaned, and refilled in order to comply with this requirement. The bathing place may not be used until the appropriate swimming chlorine and pH readings have been verified in either case.

SECTION TWELVE – REPORTING OF WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS

12.1 Required Water Quality Testing

All public bathing places, hot tubs and spas must monitor the water quality in accordance with the criteria set forth by these Rules and Regulations.

- a) Bacteriological quality must be monitored once each week when the public bathing place, hot tub or spa is in operation. All sample analyses must be performed by a laboratory certified by the Commonwealth in accordance with the provisions of 25 PA Code Chapter 109 “Pennsylvania Safe Drinking Water”.
- b) Chemical quality must be maintained as follows:
 - Public bathing places shall manually test the free available chlorine or bromine disinfection level and pH prior to opening each day and at least once every two (2) hours the facility is open if the facility is using a manual disinfecting system such as an erosion feeder or a metering pump that is not controlled via an automated controller. If an automated chemical controller is utilized then these values shall be tested prior to opening each day and at least once each six (6) hours the facility is in operation. Combined Available Chlorine (CAC) must also be tested at all bathing places prior to the start of the day regardless of what type of feed system is used.

12.2 Reporting Requirements

- a) Copies of the bacteriological monitoring results shall be submitted to the Department directly by the certified laboratory or the owner/operator. If the bacteriological test results are unsatisfactory, the Department must be notified by telephone or by fax within 24 hours of the receipt of the laboratory result. Copies of the results shall be immediately submitted to the Department.
- b) Copies of the daily operational log shall be kept for a minimum of one year and kept on file at the facility for inspection by this Department. The Department reserves the right to have operational logs submitted monthly to the Department. These reports must include all disinfectants, pH and temperatures (if required) in monitoring, and the quantity of disinfectant and other chemicals used in the operation of the public bathing place.
- c) The owner/operator of a public bathing place, hot tub or spa shall immediately notify the Department of any condition that results or will result in the failure of being able to maintain the physical, chemical or bacteriological water quality of the facility. Such conditions shall include, but are not limited to, the breakdown or malfunction of required circulation, filtration and disinfection equipment or systems, release of hazardous chemicals, diarrheal accident or contamination by broken sewer line.

SECTION THIRTEEN – LIFEGUARDS

13.1 Certified Lifeguards

Lifeguard(s) shall be on duty at the waterside at all times when a recreational swimming establishment is used by patrons. Lifeguards are not permitted to be talking or texting on a cell phone, or be assigned or engage in any other task or activity that directs their attention away from the safety of the patrons who are in the water.

13.2 Exemption from having Certified Lifeguards

Bathing places owned and operated by condominiums, other property owner associations, rental arrangements that include three or more families or social units, hotels, or motels, campgrounds, private clubs and private organizations which do not provide access to the general public, are exempt from the requirements to have a lifeguard. However, camps are NOT exempt from the requirement to have a certified lifeguard(s) on duty unless granted a specific written exemption by this Department. In addition, the owner/operator of facilities that choose not to have a lifeguard on duty shall accept full responsibility and liability for any accidents or injuries related to patrons swimming at their facilities. See Section 3.4 for the "Posting Requirements" needed to be displayed at the facility when a lifeguard is not on duty.

13.3 Proper Positioning of a Lifeguard while on Duty

While performing their duties, a lifeguard must assume the most advantageous position available to observe their assigned area of coverage. The most advantageous position may be a lifeguard chair, standing at pool side or roving so that glare on the water or any other obstruction may be reduced, thereby enabling the greatest amount of protection to be provided under the given circumstances.

13.4 Required Number of Lifeguards

- a) At no time shall there be less than two (2) certified lifeguards present and available to all patrons when the recreational swimming establishment is open to the general public for recreational swimming. At least one certified lifeguard for every 4,000 square feet of water surface area, plus one certified lifeguard for any fraction thereof, equal to or greater than 1,000 square feet, shall be on duty at the waterside at all times the recreational swimming establishment is open for use for general swimming purposes.
- b) The bather load of the recreational swimming establishment may not exceed the maximum bather load as defined in the permit application.
- c) During periods when swim meets, swim team practices, learn-to-swim programs, lifeguard training or other special events in which the use of the recreational swimming establishment is restricted to only those persons participating in the special events, at least one certified lifeguard, whose sole duty is to protect the bathers, shall be present at waterside during the event.
- d) When a wading pool is open to the public, the certified lifeguard shall have an unobstructed view of the entire wading pool from a certified lifeguard's assigned station. If the certified lifeguard does not have an unobstructed view, an additional certified lifeguard shall be on duty to guard only the wading pool.

- e) If the recreational swimming establishment has a diving board or water slide, a certified lifeguard shall be on duty to monitor the diving well or catch area when the diving board or water slide is open to the public.

13.5 Lifeguard Qualifications

- a) Lifeguards shall be capable swimmers, skilled in lifeguarding methods evidenced by their possession of a current and valid certificate or other proof of proficiency of lifeguarding skills from a recognized agency.
- b) Lifeguards shall have current and valid certification in American Red Cross Standard First Aid or its equivalent.
- c) Lifeguards shall have current and valid certification in adult, child and infant cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) from the American Red Cross or equivalent.

13.6 Educational, Instructional and Competitive Use of Public Bathing Places

- a) When a public bathing place is being used exclusively for elementary, middle or secondary school curriculum courses, and where the school is certified by the Pennsylvania Department of Education or collegiate/post-secondary curriculum courses, there shall be at least one (1) instructor present at all time who possesses:
 - 1) A current valid cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certificate from the American Red Cross or other nationally recognized certifying agency; and
 - 2) A current and valid first aid certificate from the American Red Cross or its equivalent from a nationally recognized certifying agency; and
 - 3) A current and valid Water Safety Instructor certificate from the American Red Cross, or Aquatic Instructor or Aquatic Director certificate from the YMCA or equivalent from a nationally recognized certifying agency.
- b) When a public bathing place is being used exclusively for elementary school, middle school, secondary school or collegiate or interscholastic competition, training or practice or used exclusively for organized swim team competition, training or practice, the responsible person(s) shall comply with all lifeguard/water safety requirements, policies, guidelines or standards of the nationally recognized governing organization, i.e. National Federation of State High School Associations (NF), National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), United States Swimming Association, US Diving, Inc., YMCA, or other nationally recognized governing organization.
- c) When a public bathing place is being used exclusively for aquatic instruction under the guidance of the American Red Cross, YMCA, YWCA, Boy Scouts of America, Girl Scouts USA or other nationally recognized organization with written aquatic safety/lifeguard policies, guidelines or standards, the responsible person(s) shall comply with and implement the written policies, guidelines or standards of the respective national organization.
- d) When a public bathing place is being used exclusively for aquatic competition, training, practice or instruction other than specified in 13.6b and 13.6c, one lifeguard shall be present at waterside for each fifty (50) participants in addition to any coaches or instructors who are in the water.

13.7 Criteria for Certification of a Lifeguard

The lifeguard certification must be from an agency listed on the Pennsylvania Department of Health list for recognized certifying authorities for lifeguards.

13.8 Life Saving Devices

- a) In all pools which are required to have a lifeguard present, at least one backboard must be present. The backboard shall be made out of material that can be sanitized/disinfected and be equipped with a head immobilizer and sufficient straps to immobilize a person to the backboard.
- b) In pools which require lifeguards, each qualified lifeguard conducting patron surveillance with the responsibility of in-water rescue in less than 3 feet of water must have a rescue tube immediately available for use, or have a rescue tube on his/her person in water depth of 3 feet or more.
- c) Each public bathing place whose depth exceeds two feet shall be equipped with one (1) or more reaching devices of at least ten (10) feet in length. The devices may include but are not limited to poles, shepherd crooks and any reasonable means to extend an individual's reach. These devices shall be placed adjacent to the pool so as to be readily available.
- d) Each public bathing place whose depth exceeds two feet shall be equipped with one (1) or more throwing buoys, not more than twenty-four (24) inches in diameter. These devices must have at least fifty (50) feet or over half the width of the bathing place of rope line attached. Life jackets or other flotation devices capable of supporting an adult in the water may be used in the facility but may not replace the throwing buoy.
- e) Each public bathing place, hot tub or spa shall be equipped with a first aid kit containing the items in the Appendix of these Regulations filled and readily accessible for emergency use.
- f) An operable telephone with a list of emergency telephone numbers shall be maintained at each public bathing place.

SECTION FOURTEEN – REPORTABLE DISEASES AND INJURIES

14.1 Swimming Related Injuries

Every owner/operator of a public bathing place, hot tub or spa who is covered by these Regulations shall report all injuries requiring off-site treatment which were sustained by any individual using their facilities. Medical treatment includes treatment administered by physicians, hospital staff and emergency medical personnel. Such reports shall be made to the Department in writing within one (1) week of occurrence. Injuries such as drowning, an event requiring resuscitation, head or spinal injuries or poisoning or asphyxiation from gaseous or liquid disinfectants shall be reported to the Department immediately by telephone or fax.

14.2 Disease Reporting

The owner/operator of any public bathing place, hot tub or spa facility covered by these Regulations shall report every occurrence or suspected occurrence of human Pseudomonas aeruginosa dermatitis or folliculitis, Staphylococcus aureus infection, Legionella pneumophila infection, Mycobacterium spp. Infection or Acanthamoeba keratitis

associated with or suspected of being associated with an exposure at a public bathing place, hot tub, spa, therapeutic swimming pool or whirlpool to this Department along with all information deemed necessary by the Department within forty-eight (48) hours of becoming aware of the occurrence or suspected occurrence.

SECTION 15 – PUBLIC BATHING PLACE CLOSURES

15.1 Closures

In order to properly protect the health and safety of the general public and patrons of these facilities, the following conditions shall constitute a critical violation which requires immediate closure of the effected pool/spa. The Department shall be notified immediately if any emergency closures take place.

- a) Having contaminated water in a bathing place, confirmed by a bacteriological report from an approved, certified laboratory. A follow up sample must be taken and satisfactory results received prior to reopening, unless the facility has followed the Hyperchlorination procedure found in the Appendix and has been approved to re-open by this Department.
- b) Lack of a valid electrical certificate for the public bathing place.
- c) Pool filters that are not operating properly or not turned on.
- d) Unsatisfactory disinfection residual supplied by mechanical means.
- e) Bathing place water that does not meet clarity requirements.
- f) Fecal or vomiting of the full stomach content in the bathing pool water. See appendix for the appropriate disinfection procedure.
- g) Failure to have the proper number of lifeguards while a bathing place is open to the public whenever lifeguards are required under these regulations.
- h) Failure to have the necessary lifesaving equipment present and in good working order.
- i) Any other condition determined to be an immediate threat to the health and welfare of the bathers.

Note 1: If any of the above conditions exist, the effected pool/spa shall remain closed until the Department has approved the reopening of the effected pool/spa by a compliance inspection or verbal approval by a Department representative provided Department guidelines were followed. An exception to this requirement shall be made if an approved written fecal/vomit response is on file with this Department and a certified pool operator (CPO) is present to supervise the execution of the response policy along with compliance of all regulations contained herein.

Note 2: Blood in the pool water does not present a risk to the public in order to warrant a pool closure as per the CDC. However, the pool operator may choose to close the pool for a brief period to allow the blood to dissipate (i.e. 10 minutes) and satisfy patron concerns. See CDC Memo in Appendix for more information.

SECTION SIXTEEN - PLAN REVIEW AND EQUIPMENT MODIFICATIONS

16.1 Construction Permits for Public Bathing Places

Any person who wishes to construct, modify or replace a public bathing place or equipment must contact their local municipality and the PA Department of Health for the necessary permitting and submission of plans prior to any work being done.

16.2 PA Department of Health Certificate to Operate

Every public bathing place located in the Commonwealth is required to apply and file an application with the State Health Department for a permit to operate before a public bathing place can be placed into operation. Information concerning this requirement can be found in the Appendix of these Rules and Regulations. Prior to operating a bathing place this Department must perform an initial inspection of the aquatic facilities and give approval to open.

16.3 Physical Plant Specifications

All owners or operators of a public bathing place in Bucks County shall submit copies of the physical plant specification of all new or remodeled facilities to this Department prior to the construction work or replacement of pumps, chemical feeders, chlorinators, filtration equipment, etc. Make and model numbers must be submitted for all replacement equipment that was installed. Such equipment shall meet the standards as set forth by the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) or other approved testing agency.

16.4 Bathing Beaches

Bathing Beaches must conform to the "PA Department of Health Rules and Regulations for Public Swimming Places" for the construction and operation and maintenance of these facilities.

SECTION SEVENTEEN - VARIANCES

17.1 Modifications and Waivers

The Department may grant a variance upon receiving a written request and appropriate fee from the owner or operator of a public bathing place to convene a hearing before the Department's Administrative Hearing Officer. If in the opinion of the Department's Hearing Officer a health hazard will not result in modifying or waving the requirements of these Rules and Regulations a variance may be granted. If a variance is granted, the Department will retain the information specified in subsection 17.2 in its records for the public bathing place.

17.2 Documentation of Proposed Variances and Justification

Before a variance from a requirement of these Rules and Regulations is approved by the Administrative Hearing Officer, the information that is provided by the person requesting the variance and retained in the Department's file on the public bathing place shall include the following:

- a) A statement of the proposed variance from these Rules and Regulations requirement(s) must cite relevant Rules and Regulations Section(s), including subsection number(s).

- b) An analysis of the rationale for how the potential public health hazards addressed by the relevant Rules and Regulations Section(s) will be alternatively addressed by the proposal.

17.3 Failure to Comply With Said Variance.

If the owner or operator fails to comply with the conditions of the variance, said variance will become null and void. This may result in the Department having to take legal action or suspend the Certificate of Registration for the public bathing place.

SECTION EIGHTEEN - ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND MEETINGS

18.1 Administrative hearings.

Administrative hearings provided for in these Rules and Regulations shall be conducted by the Department's Administrative Hearing Officer at a time and place designated by them and in accordance with the "Local Agency Law 353". Testimony shall be transcribed or recorded and the Hearing Officer shall make available copies of the transcript should either party request such copies. The cost of such transcription shall be the expense of the party requesting such transcript. The Hearing Officer shall make an adjudication (decision) in a reasonable time period following the hearing and shall affirm, deny or modify the notice provided by the Department.

18.2 Administrative meetings.

Administrative meetings may be conducted before the Bureau Chief and/or an Environmental Sanitation Supervisor in order to discuss violations of these Rules and Regulations and compliance remedies necessary by the owner or operator. A letter defining the source of said meeting shall be delivered or sent to the owner or operator of the public bathing place following the meeting.

SECTION NINETEEN - SEVERABILITY

19.1 Severability

If any section, subsection, paragraph, clause, or provision of these Rules and Regulations shall be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such decision shall not offset the validity of the Rules and Regulations as a whole or any part thereof. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Bucks County Department of Health, the Buck County Board of Health and the Bucks County Commissioners that the remainder of the Rules and Regulations would have been enacted if such invalid section had not been enacted and that it is their intent, intention and desire that the remaining portions of the Rules and Regulations remain in effect.

SECTION TWENTY - PENALTY PROVISIONS

20.1 Summary Offense

In accordance with the provisions of Act No. 315, approved August 25, 1951, P.L. 1304, as amended, any person who violates any provisions of these Rules and Regulations or who interferes with the Health Director or any other agent of the Bucks County Department of Health in the discharge of their official duties, or who refuses to permit the Director of the Bucks County Department of Health or their authorized representative to inspect any premises when such inspection is authorized by a properly issued search warrant, shall, for

the first offense, upon conviction thereof in a summary proceeding before a District Justice of Bucks County, be sentenced to pay the costs of prosecution and a fine of not less than thirty (\$30.00) dollars nor more than three hundred (\$300.00) dollars, and in a default thereof, to undergo imprisonment of not less than ten (10) days nor more than thirty (30) days.

20.2 Misdemeanor Offense

Any person who violates any of the provisions of these Rules and Regulations, or who interferes with the Health Director or any other agent of the Bucks County Department of Health in the discharge of their official duties, or who refuses to permit the Director of the Bucks County Department of Health or their authorized representative to inspect any premises when such inspection is authorized by a properly issued search warrant, convicted of a second or subsequent offense, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction thereof, be sentenced to pay a fine of not less than five hundred (\$500.00) dollars nor more than one thousand (\$1000.00) dollars or to undergo imprisonment not exceeding one (1) year, or both.

20.3 Prosecution

All prosecution shall be brought in the name of the County wherein the alleged offense is committed.

Approved Bucks County Board of Health:	January 9, 2020
Approved Bucks County Board of Commissioners:	February 19, 2020
Effective Date:	February 19, 2020

Appendix of Forms and Guidelines for Public Bathing Places, Owners and Operators

The purpose of these appendices for Public Bathing Places is to educate and make the owners and operators of these facilities aware of the everyday requirements that are necessary to make their facilities a safe and healthy environment for their patrons to use. The information included in this section consists of forms, applications and health related guidelines that the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and PA Department of Health have made available to pool operators. This information can be shared with the general public so they can be educated on the do's and don'ts when swimming in a public bathing place, hot tub or spa.

- Page 25 - Procedure to Open a New Public Bathing Place Facility
- Page 26 - PA Department of Health "Application to Operate a Public Bathing Place"
- Page 27 - Pennsylvania Public Bathing Place Replacement Permit (2 Pages)
- Page 29 Bucks County Department of Health, "Application for a Public Bathing Place Facility Certificate of Registration" SA-125
- Page 30 - Bucks County Department of Health, "Public Bathing Place Facility Plant Description Record" SA-126
- Page 31 - Recommended Public Bathing Place Usage Rules
- Page 32 - Required Posting of Public Information and Rules of Operation
- Page 33 - Bathing Place Operations Manual
- Page 34 - Lifeguard and Lifesaving Equipment Information
- Page 35 - Routine Maintenance Plan for Aquatic Managers and Staff
- Page 36 - Bathing Place Disinfection and Water Chemistry (3 Pages)
- Page 39 - Fecal Incident Response – According to CDC Guidelines (2 Pages)
- Page 41 - Discharge of Swimming Pool Water
- Page 42 - Summary of Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act of Dec. 2007
- Page 43 - Bucks County Department of Health "Public Bathing Place Monthly Records" SA-123
- Page 44 - Bucks County Department of Health "Swimming Pool/Spa Daily Performance Log" SA-124
- Page 45 - Bucks County Department of Health "Monthly Bathing Place Reports" SA-63
- Page 46 - Bucks County Department of Health "Superchlorination after Receiving Weekly Bacteriological Test Failure"
- Page 47 - Bucks County Department of Health "Superchlorination Report High-Standard Plate Count of Positive Coliform" SA-115
- Page 48 - Bucks County Department of Health "Hyperchlorination for a Diarrhea Incident"
- Page 49 - Bucks County Department of Health "Hyperchlorination Report Diarrhea Incident/NO Stabilizer Used" SA-116
- Page 50 Bucks County Department of Health "Hyperchlorination for a Diarrhea Incident/with Stabilizer (Cyanuric Acid, Dichlor, Trichlor)
- Page 51 - Bucks County Department of Health "Hyperchlorination Report Diarrhea Incident/with Stabilizer (Cyanuric Acid, Dichlor, Trichlor) SA-117
- Page 52 - Bucks County Department of Health "Chlorination for a Formed Stool Incident"
- Page 53 - Bucks County Department of Health "Chlorination Report-Formed Stool Incident" SA-118



Bucks County Department of Health
Doylestown: 215-345-3318
Levittown: 267-580-3510
Quakertown: 215-529-7000
www.buckscounty.org/health

Procedure to Open a New Public Bathing Place Facility

The Bucks County Department of Health (BCDH) does not review plans for new Public Bathing Places. Plan approval must be obtained by the PA Department of Health (PA DOH) and the respective township, borough or city building permits office, which has the regulatory authority to enforce the PA Uniform Construction Code. There is now a specific section in the universal pool building code for ALL pools in PA (the ISPSC 2015) that deals specifically with 'Aquatic Recreation Facilities', which includes spray and splash pads, water parks, lazy rivers, wave pools, water slide catch pools, etc. This building code must be followed for ALL pools, commercial or residential. It is the responsibility of the township, borough or city building code inspectors to verify that all new proposed bathing places/aquatic venues follow this code. The following steps must be completed before the Bucks County Department of Health will issue a "Certificate of Registration" for the new Bathing Place to open to the public.

1. The owner/applicant must submit a permit application and plans to the PA DOH for review and approval. The application and PA DOH contact information is provided in these appendices.
2. The owner/applicant must submit a permit application and plans to the respective municipality with jurisdiction for review and approval of the bathing facility plans as discussed above.
3. The PA DOH and the respective municipality must review and approve the plans, as well as make an inspection to approve the construction and operation of the new bathing place.
4. Proof must be provided to the BCDH that both the PA DOH and the respective municipality have approved the facility to open (i.e. permits to operate, letters of approval, etc.).
5. The owner/applicant must submit an application and the appropriate fee to BCDH. The facility may not open to the public until BCDH has inspected the facility and granted approval.
6. Before the BCDH conducts an opening inspection of the new bathing place, the owner/applicant must submit the name of the company or individual who is certified by the PA Department of Agriculture to add approved chemicals, etc. to this pool in order to maintain sanitary conditions in the new bathing facility. Also, a PA DEP Laboratory must be contracted to take weekly bacteriological samples at the facility. The initial sample must be taken by the approved laboratory and be submitted to this office. This sample must meet current bacteriological guidelines for bathing places, as listed in the BCDH Rules and Regulations Governing Bathing Places. In addition, the facility must submit proof to the BCDH that they have an operations manual. Details concerning what items need to be included in an Operations Manual can be found in the Appendices of the BCDH Bathing Place regulations.
7. Once the above mentioned information has been completed, a representative of the Bucks County Department of Health will perform an inspection of the bathing place. If the inspection is satisfactory, the BCDH will issue a "Certificate of Registration".

Note: Should the bathing place change owners, a form to request a new permit in the owner's name from the PA DOH and a new certificate of Registration from the BCDH must be filled out and submitted to the respective agency. These forms can be found in these Appendices.



Instructions for Filling out the Application to Operate a Public Bathing Place

***You can find the application at this link:**

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/programs/Bathing%20Places/Pages/Application.aspx>

Under the Pennsylvania’s Public Bathing Law (35 P. S. §§ 672-680d) and the regulations in 28 Pa. Code Chapter 18, it is unlawful to operate a public bathing place without first obtaining a permit from the Department of Health. Once construction has been completed, it is the responsibility of the owner/operator of the public bathing place to contact the district office of the Pennsylvania Department of Health and arrange for an operational inspection. The purpose of the operational inspection is to ensure that the facility is operating in a safe and healthful manner and in compliance with the Public Bathing Law and the regulations in 28 Pa. Code Chapter 18. Upon satisfactory completion of the operational inspection, a permit to operate a public bathing place will be issued by the Department.

To obtain a copy of the Department of Health regulations for public bathing places, contact the district office of the Department of Health or visit the following website: <http://www.pacode.com/secure/data/028/chapter18/chap18toc.html>

The applicant should consult with the design engineer or architect for the dimensions of each unit and the specifications for the recirculation, chemical treatment, and filtration equipment. A unit is an individual swimming pool, beach, hot tub, wading pool, or other artificial or natural body of water that is to be used for public swimming and bathing. The facility is the entire operation that may encompass multiple units.

Examples of facilities and units

Facility	Units
Camp Getaway	Beach (1 unit)
Acme Hotel of Elks County	Swimming pool and hot tub (2 units)
Generic Borough Community Pool	Swimming pool, wading pool, and spray pool (3 units)
Fun Time Waterpark	Wave pool, 3 catch pools for flume water slides, lazy river, and zero-depth entry lagoon with spray features (6 units total)

Note that each unit is considered a separate public bathing place and requires a separate operating permit. For each unit, a separate copy of Part IV must be filled out, however, a single copy of Parts I, II, and III may be submitted for the entire facility.

A check made payable to “Commonwealth of PA” in the amount of \$10.00 per unit must accompany the application to cover the processing fee for the application.

District Office of the PA Department of Health		
Southeast District Office 442 Reading State Office Building 625 Cherry Street Reading, PA 19602-1187 (610) 378-4352 - Telephone (610) 378-4527 - FAX	COUNTIES SERVED	
	Berks Bucks Chester Delaware	Lancaster Montgomery Philadelphia Schuylkill

PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC BATHING PLACE REPLACEMENT PERMIT

Complete this form if you are:

- Requesting transfer of facility ownership;
- Requesting replacement of a lost or damaged permit;
- Requesting a change of name/address for the facility or permittee.

In order to transfer or replace a Public Bathing Place Operating Permit, you must:

1. Complete the next page for any unit(s) requiring a replacement permit (Sections A thru F);
2. Obtain a copy of your current electrical certificate for the bathing place unit(s); and
3. Forward the completed form and a copy of the current electrical certificate to the environmental health specialist at the appropriate district for your county (highlighted) as listed below:

<p>Northcentral District Office Water Tower Sq., Suite 109 1000 Commerce Park Dr. Williamsport, PA 17701</p> <p>1-877-PA-HEALTH P 570-327-3400 F 570-327-3748</p>	<p>Counties of: Bradford, Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland Potter, Snyder, Sullivan, Tioga, Union</p>	<p>Southcentral District Office 30 Kline Plaza Harrisburg, PA 17104</p> <p>1-877-PA-HEALTH P 717-787-8092 F 717-772-3151</p>	<p>Counties of: Adams, Bedford, Blair, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Lebanon, Mifflin, Perry, York</p>
<p>Northeast District Office 665 Carey Avenue, Suite 5 Wilkes-Barre, PA 18706</p> <p>1-877-PA-HEALTH P 570-826-2062 F 570-826-2238</p>	<p>Counties of: Carbon, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Luzerne, Monroe, Northampton, Pike, Susquehanna, Wayne, Wyoming</p>	<p>Southeast District Office Reading State Office Bldg. 625 Cherry St., Rm. 442 Reading, PA 19602</p> <p>1-877-PA-HEALTH P 610-378-4352 F 610-378-4527</p>	<p>Counties of: Berks, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Lancaster, Montgomery, Philadelphia Schuylkill</p>
<p>Northwest District Office 19 McQuiston Drive Jackson Center, PA 16133</p> <p>1-877-PA-HEALTH P 724-662-6068 F 724-662-6086</p>	<p>Counties of: Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Venango, Warren</p>	<p>Southwest District Office 233 West Otterman St. Greensburg, PA 15601</p> <p>1-877-PA-HEALTH P 724-830-2701 F 724-832-5327</p>	<p>Counties of: Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Somerset, Washington, Westmoreland</p>

Forms can either be mailed or faxed to the appropriate District Office listed above. Upon receipt of this information, your file will be reviewed and if deemed acceptable, a new permit will be issued as soon as possible. Thank you for your interest in environmental health.

Please check box that applies to your request:

- Facility name/Address change Transfer of ownership Replace lost or damaged

A. Facility name _____

Facility address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Municipality _____ County _____

Facility phone _____ Facility fax _____

B. Permittee name _____

Permittee address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Permittee phone _____ Permittee fax _____

C. Permit should be sent to (check one) Permittee _____ Facility _____

D. Indicate the type of unit(s) to be permitted. Please identify the unit(s). For example: "Outdoor 25 meter pool", "Indoor spa", "Outdoor wading pool", etc.

E. List any previous facility names or permit numbers, if available.

F. Indicate the type of unit(s) to be permitted. Please identify the unit(s). For example: "Outdoor 25 meter pool", "Indoor spa", "Outdoor wading pool", etc.

G. List any previous facility names or permit numbers, if available.

H. Signature of applicant _____ Date _____

FOR DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

Permit #			
Date issued			

BUCKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

APPLICATION FOR A PUBLIC BATHING PLACE CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

Type of Certificate of Registration requested:	
<input type="checkbox"/> NEW	
<input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL	FACILITY ID#: _____
<input type="checkbox"/> CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP	
Name of Former Owner _____	
Former Name of Facility _____	

1. Name and address of the Public Bathing Place Facility.

Name of Facility:	Business Telephone:
Facility Address: _____	City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Email Address: _____	Business Fax: _____

2. Name of Applicant / Business Owner / Corporation / Company / Association:

Name of Applicant:	Applicant's Telephone:
Address of Applicant: _____	City _____ State _____ Zip _____

The Certificate of Registration covers all pools/spas located on this property.

Number of pools/spas at this location: _____ Hours of operation: _____

Valid Pesticide Applicator Number. Must be certified in Category 24, Swimming Pools: _____

Name of Pool Company (if applicable): _____

Make/model of VGBA Drain Cover, along with the expiration date: _____

A copy of the current Electrical Inspection Certificate must be attached to this application.

See Current Fee Schedule: One pool/spa _____ Each additional pool/spa _____

Total fee submitted: \$ _____

– The undersigned agrees to operate this Public Bathing Place Facility in compliance with the Bucks County Department of Health Rules and Regulations Governing Public Bathing Places.

SIGNATURE of:
Business Owner/Applicant: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____

NOTE: THE OWNER OF THE BUSINESS OR A CORPORATE OFFICER MUST SIGN THIS APPLICATION.

**A Public Bathing Place cannot operate without a valid
Certificate of Registration from the Bucks County Department of Health.**

Make check or money order payable to: Bucks County Department of Health

Mail Application to: Bucks County Department of Health
Neshaminy Manor Center
1282 Almshouse Road
Doylestown PA 18901

**BUCKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
PUBLIC BATHING PLACE FACILITY
PLANT DESCRIPTION RECORD**

Name of Bathing Place: _____

Municipality: _____

Facility No: _____ Permit Date: ____ / ____ / ____ State Permit # _____

Pool Description:

Shape: _____ Indoor Outdoor

Size: Length: _____ Width: _____ Min. Depth: _____ Max Depth: _____

Capacity: _____ Max. No of Bathers: _____

of Inlets: _____ # of Skimmers: _____ # of Scum Gutters: _____

Recirculation System:

Filters: No: _____ Name & Type: _____

Total Filter. Area: _____

Pumps: No: _____ Recir. Rate: _____

Hrs. Turnover: _____

Flow Indicator Reading: _____ Flow Indicator Reading when Backflushing Required: _____

Chemical Feed Equipment: _____

Chlorination:

Name & Type: _____

Capacity: _____

Point of Application: _____

Water Supply:

Domestic Supply: _____

Pool Supply: _____

Waste Disposal:

Pool Water: _____

Filter Backwash Water: _____

Sanitary Sewage: _____

Bather Preparation Facilities:

Bathing Place Location:

Remarks:

Recommended Public Bathing Place Usage Rules

Each facility should have posted in a prominent location the facility use rules. These rules are intended to inform patrons of behaviors to avoid as well as behaviors that should be encouraged in order to have a safe and healthful enjoyment of the facility. The following are lists of recommended usage rules. Facilities are encouraged to tailor these rules to meet their individual needs and to develop additional rules as needed.

General Rules for Swimming Pools and Other Public Bathing Places:

- Persons with infections or diseases that may be transmitted by the pool water are prohibited (28 Pa. Code §18.53).
- Patrons should shower before entering the pool area.
- No diving in areas of five feet of depth or less.
- No running or rough play.
- No glass containers in the pool area.
- Children under the age of 16 years should be supervised by a parent or guardian.
- Do not swim alone.
- Do not swim during severe weather conditions such as electrical storms or tornado.

Additional General Rules for Spas and Hot Tubs:

- Pregnant women, elderly persons, children over 5, and persons suffering from heart disease, diabetes, or high or low blood pressure should consult with a physician before using the facility.
- Risk of Drowning - Do not use the spa or hot tub while under the influence of alcohol, narcotics or other drugs that cause sleepiness, drowsiness, or raise/lower blood pressure.
- Do not use the spa if the temperature is above 104 degrees F (39 degrees C).
- Enter and exit slowly.
- Do not use alone. Overexposure to hot water may cause nausea, dizziness and fainting.
- Exit the spa if you experience nausea or dizziness.
- Observe a reasonable time limit. Exit after 10-15 minutes and cool down before re-entering.
- Keep all breakable objects out of the spa area.
- Never place electrical appliances such as radios, TV, telephones within five (5) feet of the spa.
- Do not use or operate the spa if the suction fitting is missing broken or loose.

General Rules for Bathing Beaches:

- Children under the age of 16 must be supervised by an adult
- Swim only in designated areas.
- Do not swim while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
- Do not swim alone.
- The hours of operation for the swimming beach.
- Emergency contact information for the bathing beach.

Additional Rules for Water Slides:

- One rider at a time. Wait until the landing area is clear before entering the slide.
- Slide in a sitting position or on the back only.
- No "head first" sliding.
- Do not attempt to stop in the slide.
- Leave the catch area immediately.

If lifeguard coverage is not required, the operator should also post a sign stating, "Warning: No Lifeguard on Duty" in letters at least four inches high and the words "Children under the Age of Sixteen (16) should be accompanied by an Adult" in letters at least one inch high. "Hours of Operation; and that the Aquatic facility use is prohibited at any other time" in letters at least one inch high.

Signs should be legible and posted prominently inside the public bathing place enclosure and in the bather preparation areas. Note that the rules listed above are intended as a guide and not a regulatory standard.



Required Posting of Public Information and Rules of Operation

Required Posting of Public Information (Must be Prominently Displayed)

- (a) Posting of User Load, Maximum number of patrons permitted in the pool. This must also be posted in meeting rooms, elevators or hallways leading to the pool. Copy of the Bucks County Department of Health "Certificate of Registration."
- (b) All pool rules shall be legibly stated on a sign in at least one conspicuous location within the pool area.
- (c) "Pool Closed" sign shall be posted whenever the facilities are not open for use.

Required Posting of Bathing Place Rules – the following is a list of recommended rules in order to keep a safe and sanitary at the bathing facility. The facility is encouraged to tailor or add to these rules to meet their individual needs.

- Persons with infections or diseases that may be transmitted by the pool water are prohibited.
- No swimming if you have or have had diarrhea in the last two weeks.
- Patrons must shower before entering the pool area.
- Do not change diapers at pool side.
- No diving in areas of five feet of depth or less.
- No running or rough play.
- No glass containers in the pool area.
- Children under the age of 16 years should be supervised by a parent or guardian.
- Do not swim alone.
- Do not swim during severe weather conditions such as an electrical storm.
- Report all incidents including vomitus, diarrhea, fecal contamination or unsafe conditions to the management of the facility immediately.

Required Rules for Spas

- Children under age 5 and people using alcohol or drugs that cause drowsiness shall not use SPAS.
- Pregnant women and people with heart disease, high blood pressure or other health problems should not use SPAS without prior consultation with a healthcare provider.

Additional Rules for Facilities that are not required to have a Lifeguard

- Warning – No Lifeguard on Duty (Letters 4 inches in height minimum)
- No Swimming Alone. Children and Non-swimmers shall not use the Pool unless accompanied by a responsible Adult.
- "Hours of Operation; and that the Aquatic facility use is prohibited at any other time."

Note: A copy of the BCDH Bathing Place Regulations, lifeguard certificates (if lifeguards are required) the most current bacteriological sample results, the PA DOH Permit to Operate, the current electrical certificate, and all applicable Safety Data Sheets must be available at the facility for review by the Public or this Department.

Bathing Place Operations Manual

Each Aquatic Facility shall develop an **Operations Manual** to keep at facility.

- 1) Bathing Place description(s) and location(s)
- 2) Facility Communication Page
Emergency Phone Numbers _____
Other Phone Numbers _____
- 3) Routine Maintenance Plan (RMP)
- 4) List of Chemicals with SDS Sheets
- 5) Circulation and Filtration Systems
- 6) Fecal/vomit/blood CONTAMINATION RESPONSE protocols
- 7) Preventive Maintenance Plan
- 8) Any other STANDARD operation and maintenance policies and instructions or applicable information for each Bathing Place feature at the facility.

The following information including posters for pool operators and patrons are available on the BCDH website:

<http://www.buckscounty.org/government/healthservices/HealthDepartment/Environmental/PublicBathingPlaces>

CDC Handouts

- ◆ CDC Steps for healthy swimming – Protect yourself, your family and your friends from germs in water
- ◆ CDC Fecal incident response recommendations for aquatic staff
- ◆ CDC Take frequent bathroom breaks: Keep pee and poop out of the pool!
- ◆ CDC Why not wash your hands
- ◆ CDC Can you read this? Swimming when you have diarrhea can spread germs in the water
- ◆ CDC Shower before swimming: There are some things you would rather not share
- ◆ CDC Water: Dirty diapers, Reward: A clean and healthy pool
- ◆ CDC Don't drink the pool water: Use pool water for swimming, not drinking

CDC Fact Sheets

The fact sheets below deal specifically with recreational water and are designed to address issues relevant to various audiences, including swimmers, parents with young children, aquatics staff, and public health professionals. These fact sheets raise awareness about recreational water illnesses (RWIs) and other healthy swimming topics.

- ◆ Hyperchlorination to kill Cryptosporidium
- ◆ Facts about Crypto and Swimming Pools
- ◆ Facts about Giardia and Swimming Pools
- ◆ Facts about Legionella and Hot Tubs/Spas
- ◆ Facts about Hot Tub Rash
- ◆ Facts about Swimmer's Ear
- ◆ Facts about MRSA and Recreational Water Facilities
- ◆ Use the Model Aquatic Health Code to Making Swimming Health and Safe

***Lifeguard and Lifesaving Equipment Information**

Note: For all facilities that are required to have a lifeguard, a copy of the lifeguard's certification must be kept on file. Lifeguard certifications must meet standards published yearly by the PA Department of Health, which can be found at their web site or be obtained from this Department.

Required Lifesaving Equipment (must be immediately available at poolside)

- A. Lifesaving Equipment for Bathing Places that are not required to have lifeguards
 - Reaching device (at least 10' in length, i.e. poles, Shepard's Crooks, etc.)
 - One or more throwing buoys, not more than 24" in diameter. Must have at least 50 feet of rope or over half the width of the pool attached.
 - Life jackets or other approved device capable of supporting a person are recommended, but may not replace a throwing buoy.
 - First Aid Kit

- B. Lifesaving Equipment for Bathing Places that **are** required to have lifeguards, in addition to the equipment noted above.
 - Each qualified lifeguard conducting patron surveillance must have a rescue tube immediately available for use in water depth of 3 feet or more.
 - A backboard is recommended and shall be made out of material that can be sanitized or disinfected, and be equipped with a head mobile and sufficient straps to immobilize a person to the backboard.

- C. Recommended updated contents of the First Aid Kit can be located within the PA Department of Health's Application. *The address for the application's link is located on page 29.

Routine Maintenance Plan for Aquatic Managers and Staff

The key to having a clean and safe bathing place is to develop a daily **Routine Maintenance Plan** (RMP) which lays out the necessary tasks to be performed each day to ensure that the facility functions as it was designed to do. The following items should be part of your plan, but are not inclusive, as every facility should develop their own RMP specific to their facility.

1. Unlock facility and conduct an inspection, making sure all areas of the pool/spa are clean and walkways/deck and exits are clear and free of debris. Look the facility over for any signs of disrepair or problems, especially electrical problems. Make sure communication devices and alarms are operational in the case of emergency. **Doors to non-public areas locked!**
2. Check the pump room, making sure all chemical application and circulation/filtration equipment is operating as required. Check the flow meter and filters to see if they need backwashing/cleaning.
3. Check the clarity (can you see the main suction outlet at the deepest end of the pool?) and the quality of the water, including the pH and disinfectant levels. Take corrective actions as needed. The following are the chemical levels required for pools and spas.
RECORD CHEMICAL READINGS ON THE OPERATIONS SHEET!
 - a. Outdoor Pools – Free Available Chlorine levels (FAC) – 1-10 PPM FAC (no cyanuric acid)
 - b. Outdoor Pools – Free Available Chlorine levels (w/cyanuric Acid - 2- 10 PPM FAC
 - c. Spas/Hot Tubs – Free Available Chlorine levels (FAC) – 3-10 PPM Cl₂ (no cyanuric acid)
 - d. Combined available chlorine levels should not exceed .4 PPM
 - e. Pools – Bromine levels (3-8 PPM Bromine)
 - f. Spas/Hot Tubs – Bromine Levels (4-8 PPM Bromine)
 - g. pH levels – 7.2-7.8
 - h. If heated (i.e. spa) – water temperature checked (maximum of 104 degrees F)
 - i. Do other chemical parameters such as Combined Chlorine levels, Cyanuric Acid levels, Total Alkalinity, Calcium Hardness, or Total Dissolved Solids need to be checked?
4. Check main anti-suction drain cover(s) and other entrapment prevention devices as well as other skimmer and suction covers, etc. to make sure they are firmly attached and operational. All skimmer baskets and gutters should be checked and cleaned if necessary.
5. Thoroughly inspect attached handrails, ladders, diving boards, slides, etc. to make sure they are secure, clean and in good repair. Check that all required lifesaving equipment/supplies are on hand and that safety signage is in place. Any issues must be reported and repaired immediately.
6. Brush pool/spa walls to remove debris or algae accumulations and vacuum. One strategy is to brush the pool at night and vacuum the next morning; picking up any debris that settled from the brushing the night before.
7. Prior to leaving, empty waste baskets and securely lock up the facility.

Note 1: For those facilities approved for remote monitoring of chlorine and pH levels, results must be submitted monthly to the Department of Health.

Note 2: Where lifeguards are required and are actively assigned responsibility for patron surveillance, no lifeguard is permitted to be talking or texting on a cell phone, or be assigned or partaking in any other task or activity that compromises this required duty.

Note 3: Only a person certified/authorized in Bathing Place Chemical Applications by the PA Department of Agriculture may apply pool chemicals at the Bathing Place facility (i.e. disinfectants, algaecides, pH modification, etc.).

Bathing Place Disinfection and Water Chemistry

One of the most important steps of keeping your swimming pool water safe and sanitary is learning how to maintain your pool water's disinfectant levels, pH and chemical balance. Getting it right can help ensure that your pool water stays fresh and sanitary and help you avoid common pool maintenance pitfalls. Not a chemistry buff? No worries, all you need is some basic knowledge and a good test kit.

Bathing Places are required to have **disinfectants** (i.e. chlorine or bromine) within certain parameters to ensure that bacteria and viruses are killed to protect swimmers from Recreational Waterborne Illnesses (RWIs). Chlorine is a commonly used disinfectant because it not only rapidly and persistently kills germs and viruses, it is also an effective algaecide and a strong oxidizer (i.e. Superchlorination) of unwanted contaminants. Chemicals added to the pool (i.e. chlorine) in order to provide the required continuous disinfection of the pool must always be added via a continuous feed system, whether it be automated or a manual feed system, and may not be hand fed into the bathing place. **Always read and understand the product label before applying any chemicals.** The required disinfectant levels are as follows:

- j. Outdoor Pools – Free Available Chlorine levels (FAC) – 1-10 PPM FAC (no cyanuric acid) (recommended 1-3 PPM FAC)**
- k. Outdoor Pools – Free Available Chlorine levels (w/ cyanuric Acid - 2- 10 PPM FAC) (recommended 2-4 PPM FAC)**
- l. Spas/Hot Tubs – Free Available Chlorine levels (FAC) – 3-10 PPM FAC**
- m. Combined Available Chlorine (CAC)/(Chloramines) – 0.4 PPM maximum**
- n. Pools – Total Bromine levels (3-8 PPM) (recommended 3-5 PPM TB)**
- o. Spas/Hot Tubs – Total Bromine Levels (4-8 PPM TB)**

When a disinfectant such as chlorine is added to pool water, chlorine immediately starts killing germs and reacting/combining with ammonia and other nitrogen containing waste products such as sweat, urine and other swimmer waste. **The portion of the chlorine that does not combine with these waste products is called the Free Available Chlorine (FAC)** and is the most important measurement of chlorine because FAC is an effective disinfectant. **Chlorine that has combined with waste products such as urine are called Combined Available Chlorine (CAC) or Chloramines.** It is important to note that **CACs** are not good disinfectants and can cause eye irritation and chlorine odors at the pool. Therefore, CACs may be no more than .4 PPM. To measure CAC, first measure Free Available Chlorine and Total Available Chlorine and then subtract the two as per the example below.

Total Chlorine – Free Available Chlorine = Combined Available Chlorine (CAC)

CAC can be reduced by: 1. Superchlorination (see Superchlorination chart in Appendix), 2. Water exchange, or 3. Ensuring that patrons follow the proper bather hygiene practices.

Commercial *pools* use chlorine gas, sodium hypochlorite (liquid bleach), calcium hypochlorite (granular or tablet), lithium hypochlorite or chlorinated isocyanurates as chlorine based disinfectants. **Chlorinated isocyanurates function as disinfectants and as chlorine stabilizers.** A stabilizer, which can also be added separately, helps reduce excess loss of chlorine in water due to the ultraviolet rays of the sun. However, when a stabilizer/cyanuric acid is combined with chlorine, the chlorine is not as effective as a disinfectant. Therefore, a minimum of 2 PPM FAC must be maintained in the pool when stabilized chlorine is being used. Stabilizers are not used in in-door pools/spas!

The five water chemical factors that most affect pool water are **pH, total alkalinity, calcium hardness, temperature and total dissolved solids (TDS)**, and together they determine if a water is balanced (see water balance below for additional information on this topic).

pH is a numerical value which is a measure of the hydrogen ion concentration in the water and indicates whether the water is acidic (pH of <7), basic (pH of >7) or neutral (pH of 7). For all pools and spas, the pH level must be slightly basic, between 7.2-7.8, with a **recommended range of 7.4-7.6**. If the pH is below 7.2, it can cause corrosion and eat away at pool pipes and metal surfaces, etc. as well as cause irritation to the eyes and skins of bathers. If the pH is over 7.8, the effectiveness of the disinfectant is greatly diminished and scaly deposits will clog filters and coat heating elements, etc. and promote algal growth.

If the pH is off, it is best to first check all water balance variables listed above, including Total Alkalinity and make adjustments to Total Alkalinity levels to bring the Total Alkalinity into the ideal range first as alkalinity acts as a pH buffer. Attempting to adjust the pH before adjusting TA is not recommended. You must know the volume of your pool in gallons in order to know how much of any particular chemical needs to be added to change pH, or Total Alkalinity, etc.

Total Alkalinity (TA) is a measure of the ability of water to resist changes in pH and it is expressed in parts per million (PPM), whereas *the acceptable range is 60-180 PPM (recommended 80-120 PPM)*. Low Alkalinity increases the sensitivity of pH. Water with a low Alkalinity level can quickly go from a high pH to a low pH and then back again. This is called pH bounce and it can be damaging to the pool and equipment. High Total Alkalinity decreases the sensitivity of pH. The result is usually high pH and lower chlorine efficiency. It can also result in scale formation and cloudy water. *Keeping the Total Alkalinity in the correct range is essential to maintaining the pH in the correct range!*

How to Raise Total Alkalinity

Use a pool water test kit to determine the total alkalinity level. If your water test kit shows your TA is below 80 ppm, then you will need to raise it by adding sodium bicarbonate, or other similar approved product as per the label directions. Adding this product will have very little effect on pH.

How to Lower Total Alkalinity

Although not as common as low total alkalinity, high TA can affect your pool water. For instance, you can get skin and eyes irritations when swimming in a pool that has high TA. Adding muriatic acid or sodium bisulfate as per the label instructions may be used to lower the total alkalinity.

To raise the pH, sodium carbonate (soda ash), and Sodium hydroxide are used. Sodium Hydroxide is effective to raise pH but it is very corrosive and care must be taken to apply it to the pool as per label instructions while being careful to prevent chemical burns to skin or eyes. A pH base demand test demand sheet and chemical application charts may be used to help approximate the amount of chemical needed to raise the pH.

To lower pH, sodium bisulfate, muriatic acid or carbon dioxide (CO₂) are used as per the label directions.

Calcium Hardness (CA) is a measure of the calcium in the water, and may not exceed 2500 PPM (**recommended range 200-400 PPM**). If there is not enough calcium in the water, the water tends to aggressively dissolve plaster or metals in the pool. If there is too much, the calcium can form scaly deposits. If CA is too low, calcium chloride (77%) or anhydrous calcium chloride (100%) can be added as per label directions. Add chemicals to water, never water to chemicals! IF CA is high, the only way to reduce it is to remove some of the pool water.

Total dissolved Solids (TDS) in the pool water may not exceed 2500 PPM, and low TDS is fine. High TDS can interfere with the disinfection and also cause the water to look cloudy or dull. The only practical way to lower TDS is to drain water and add fresh water. Spas, hot tubs and small pools should be dumped and refilled regularly to eliminate high TDS.

Temperature is the least significant factor in balanced water, as it doesn't have a major effect on water balance. Spas may not be greater than 104 degrees Fahrenheit, whereas 102 degrees is recommended.

Balanced Water in a pool means that the pool water is neither eating away/dissolving pool walls, structures or piping/equipment **and** not depositing scaly deposits on pool walls and in piping, etc. A commonly used tool in determining the degree of balance is the **Langelier or Calcium Saturation Index (SI)**. If the water is balanced. The easiest way to ensure that your water is balanced is to ensure that the five major factors (i.e. pH, Total alkalinity, Calcium hardness, Temperature, and Total Dissolved Solids) which affect pool water are within their recommended ranges.

Algaecides must be labeled for use in pools, be registered with EPA or applicable state agency and be used as per label instructions.

Enzymes are naturally occurring proteins that act as catalysts to speed-up the chemical process of breaking down non-living organic materials like the grime and gunk that collects in a pool or spa from wind and rain, dirt, leaves, animal (and human) waste. Enzymes added must be labeled for use in pools, be registered with EPA or applicable state agency and be used as per label instructions.

Hyperchlorination - The intentional and specific raising of chlorine levels for a prolonged period of time to inactivate pathogens following a fecal or vomit release in a public bathing place. See Hyperchlorination Procedures in the BCDH Bathing Place Regulation Appendices.

Superchlorination - Chlorine also oxidizes or burns up organic matter such as sweat or suntan lotion when at high enough levels. Generally, during Superchlorination the chlorine concentration is raised to 5-10 PPM free chlorine for a specified period of time. See Superchlorination Procedures in the BCDH Bathing Place Regulation Appendices.

Note: It is important to remember that acids and bases may be directly added to pool or spa water if the label instructions allow it. However, chemicals must be added when there are no people in the water and the pool or spa remains closed until the chemicals are completely dissolved or dispersed. *It is advisable to add the chemicals in the evening after the pool closes so the chemicals have time to mix and disperse.*

Basic Rules of Thumb regarding the Storage and Use of Pool Chemicals

- Always read and follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- Store chemicals in a cool, dry and shaded place.
- Never mix different types of chlorine—add each to the pool separately.
- Never mix chemicals together—add each to the pool separately.
- Avoid breathing fumes or vapors.
- Don't buy more pool chemicals than you'll use in a season - they lose effectiveness over time.
- Make sure pool chemicals are inaccessible to children and patrons of the facility in general.
- NEVER ADD WATER TO CHEMICALS, ALWAYS ADD CHEMICALS TO WATER.

Recommended Bathing Place Testing Equipment

1. **LaMotte 2056 Color Q Pro 7 Digital Pool Water Test Kit**
2. **Taylor K-2006 Pool Test Kit**
3. **JNW Direct Pool and Spa Test strips (to measure High Chlorine)**

Fecal Incident Response – According to CDC Guidelines

Prompt response to fecal accidents is necessary to prevent recreational water illnesses (RWIs). RWIs are spread by swallowing pool water that has been contaminated with fecal matter. If someone has diarrhea, that person can easily contaminate the pool. Pool water is shared by every swimmer. It is not sterile. It is not drinking water. The germs that cause RWIs are killed by chlorine over a set length of time that is dependent upon whether it is a formed stool accident or a diarrheal accident.

Fecal accidents are a concern and an inconvenience to both pool operators and patrons. Pool operators should carefully explain to patrons why the pool needs to be closed in response to a fecal accident. Understanding that pool closure is necessary for proper disinfection and protection of the health and safety of swimmers is likely to promote support rather than frustration. Pool closures allow chlorine to do its job – to kill germs and help prevent RWIs.

Formed Stool Incident Response:

1. Direct everyone to leave the pool. If other pools share the same filter they must be closed also.
2. Remove as much of the fecal material as possible using a net or scoop and dispose of it in a sanitary manner. Clean and disinfect the net or scoop (e.g., leave the net or scoop immersed in the pool during disinfection).
*VACUUMING STOOL FROM THE POOL IS **NOT** ALLOWED!*
3. Raise the chlorine concentration to 2 ppm and ensure that the water pH is between 7.2-7.5. Temperature should be at about 77°F. Other concentrations or closure times can be used as long as the Contact Time (CT) inactivation value is kept constant. (See figure one)
4. Maintain the chlorine concentration at 2 ppm, pH 7.2-7.5 for at least 25 minutes before reopening the pool.
5. Complete the fecal log documenting the accident date and time, chlorine and pH values and procedures that were followed.

Diarrhea in the Pool

1. Direct everyone to leave the pool. If other pools share the same filter they must be closed also.
2. Remove as much of the fecal material as possible using a net or scoop and dispose of it in a sanitary manner. Clean and disinfect the net or scoop (e.g., leave the net or scoop immersed in the pool during disinfection).
*VACUUMING FECAL MATERIAL FROM THE POOL IS **NOT** ALLOWED!*
3. Raise the free chlorine concentration to 20 ppm and maintain the pH between 7.2-7.5 and the temperature at about 77°F. The chlorine and pH should remain at these levels for at least 12.75 hours to achieve the CT inactivation value of 15,300. Crypto CT values are based on the inactivation of 99.9% of oocysts. (See figure 2) *Laboratory studies indicate that this level of Crypto inactivation cannot be reached in the presence of 50 ppm chlorine stabilizer even after 24 hours at 40 ppm free chlorine. If a chlorine stabilizer is used, some pool water must be drained in order to lower the chlorine stabilizer to 20 ppm or less.*
4. Ensure that the filtration system is operating while the pool reaches and maintains the proper chlorine level during disinfection. Measure and record the free chlorine residual and the pH every hour.

5. After 12.75 hours backwash the filter thoroughly to waste. Do not return the backwash through the filter. Where appropriate, replace the filter media.
6. Allow swimmers back into the pool after the required CT value has been achieved and the chlorine level has been returned to 6 ppm or less.
7. Complete the fecal log documenting the accident date and time, chlorine and pH values and procedures that were followed.

Figure 1-Giardia Inactivation for a formed stool Fecal Incident

Chlorine Level (ppm)	Disinfection Time
1.0	45 minutes
2.0	25 minutes
3.0	19 minutes

Figure 2-Crypto Inactivation Time for a Diarrheal Fecal Accident

Chlorine Level (ppm)	Disinfection Time
1.0	15,300 minutes (255 hours)
10	1,530 minutes (25.5 hours)
20	765 minutes (12.75 hours)



Discharge of Swimming Pool Water

The discharge of any sewage or industrial waste, including swimming pool water to a water of the Commonwealth without a permit is a violation of the Clean Streams Law, the Act of June 22, 1937 P.L. 1987, as amended.

It has been the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's policy not to require permits for discharges from single residence pools provided the guidelines are followed. Local municipalities should be contacted for local ordinances.

These guidelines shall not be construed so as to waive or impair any rights of the PA DEP to prosecute the property (pool) owner and/or pool company for any stream damage that occurs as a result of the discharge. Penalties would be assessed under the provisions of the Clean Streams Law.

Pool Guidelines:

Disposal of water to sanitary sewer

If the municipal authority grants permission, discharging of pool backwash water, neutralized pool cleaning wastewater and standing water to the sanitary sewer system is the best environmental alternative. Care should be taken in making sure the discharge is to a sanitary sewer and **not** a storm sewer which would discharge to a stream. If sanitary sewers are not in the immediate area, the water should be hauled off-site for disposal at an approved treatment facility.

Discharge of water

The following guidelines must be followed if water is not pumped or hauled to a sanitary sewer. Water should be pumped over a grassy area to allow for absorption, filtration and aeration of water. The discharge should be at a rate which prevents erosion and optimizes infiltration. In no event shall pool waters be directly discharged to waters of the Commonwealth.

1. Standing water or accumulated rain and/or pool water from the previous season should be pumped from the top so as not to disturb settled solids. Solids on the pool bottom should not be discharged. Following pump down of water, solids should be cleaned out manually. The discharge should not raise stream temperatures by more than 2 degrees F in a one hour period or a total of 5 degrees F, pH should be between 6 and 9 standard units and total chlorine residual should be 0.0 ppm.
2. Cleaning wastewaters containing muriatic acid or chlorine that is used in cleaning pool surfaces needs to be treated prior to discharge. Muriatic acid wastewater should be neutralized to a pH between 6 and 9 standard units. Chlorine rinses should stand for a period of days to allow chlorine degradation prior to discharge. Total chlorine residual of the wastewater discharge should be less than 0.5 ppm. Temperature should be monitored as above. Chlorine rinse water pH should be between 6 and 9 standard units.
3. Filter backwash water during normal pool operation must be at a sufficiently low volume that all water infiltrates to the ground. Backwash water discharged to a stream or storm sewer is not permitted.

Questions concerning pool guidelines should be directed to PA DEP, Southeast Region Office, Bureau of Water Management at 484-250-5970.



Bucks County Department of Health
Doylestown: 215-345-3318 ~ Levittown: 267-580-3510 ~ Quakertown: 215-529-7000
www.buckscounty.org/health

Summary of the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act of 2007

The Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act promotes the safe use of pools, spas and hot tubs by imposing mandatory federal requirements for suction entrapment avoidance and by establishing a voluntary grant program for states with laws that meet certain minimum requirements as outlined in the Act. Effective December 20, 2007, the Act is being administered by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).

Mandatory Federal Requirements for Entrapment Avoidance.

By December 20, 2008, the Act requires:

- **Safety Drain Covers.** Each swimming pool or spa drain cover manufactured, distributed, or entered into commerce in the United States shall conform to the American National Standard ASME A112.19.8 – 2007 Suction Fittings for Use in Swimming Pools, Wading Pools, Spas, and Hot Tubs published by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME). Compliance with this Standard will be enforced by the CPSC as a consumer product safety rule.
- **Public Pool Drain Covers.** Each public pool and spa, both new and existing, shall be equipped with drain covers conforming to the ASME/ANSI A112.19.8 – 2007 Standard described above.
- **Public Pool Drain Systems.** Each public pool and spa (pump) with a single main drain, other than an unblockable drain, shall be equipped with one or more additional devices or systems designed to prevent suction entrapment that meet the requirements of any applicable ASME/ANSI Standard or applicable consumer product safety rule. In addition to a compliant drain cover, such additional devices or systems include a safety vacuum release system (SVRS), or suction limiting vent system, or gravity drainage system, or automatic pump shutoff system, or drain disablement, or other system determined by the CPSC to be equally effective in preventing suction entrapment.
- **Expiration of anti-siphon Drain Cover.** The owner of every bathing place shall keep on record the make and model number and date of installation for every anti-siphon drain cover installed in each spa, hot tub, pool or other aquatic venue which requires that one be present. In addition, the date of expiration of each anti-siphon drain cover must also be kept with the information of each individual drain cover so that the owner/operator knows when these units need to be replaced. Consult the manufacture for expiration date.



Bucks County Department of Health
Public Bathing Place Monthly Records (For Automatic Disinfectant Feed System)

Name of facility _____ Address of site _____

Permit No. _____ Month _____ Year _____ Pool _____ Spa _____ Beach _____ Cap. in gal. _____

Day of the mo.	USE DATA		RESIDUAL CHLORINE, BROMINE, pH				OPERATIONAL DATA			CI & Br USE	CHEMICALS USED	PESTICIDE APPLICATION RECORDS			APPLICATOR	
	Number of bathers		A.M. Shallow End	A.M. Deep End	P.M. Shallow End	P.M. Deep End	A.M. pH	P.M. pH	Flow rate GPM			Gals. Water added	Back-wash /Clean Filter	Clean bottom and sides?		EPA Reg. #
1																
2																
3																
4																
5																
6																
7																
8																
9																
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On the reverse side the following incidents must be noted: Circulation pump off at any time; Fecal release in pool; Accident/Injury/Death at pool; Cloudy water; Positive bacteriology report; Failure of any essential disinfection or circulation component; Pool drained. Check Free Chlorine and pH a minimum of twice daily (Am & Pm) and record on this form. It is recommended that you complete the other columns. if pool/spa closed, mark it on the report.
Keep application records for 3 years.

Bucks County Department of Health
Swimming Pool/Spa Daily Performance Log
(For Automatic Disinfectant Feed System)

Name of Facility: _____ Month: _____

Location: _____ Year: _____

Day	Number of Bathers	DISINFECTION				pH		OPERATION DATA			
		Residual Disinfectant in P.P.M.						Flow Rate in GPM	Gallons Fresh Water Added	Filters Washed	Pool Last Drained
		Shallow End		Deep End							
		A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.				
1											
2											
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Monthly Bathing Place Reports (For Manual Disinfectant Feed System)

Name of facility: _____ Month: _____ Year: _____
 Address of site: _____ ID # _____

Day of month	DISINFECTION Record Disinfectant in PPM (Every two hours)				POOL WATER pH (Every two hours)			
1								
2								
3								
4								
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Number of Lifeguards: _____ Hours of Operation: _____
 Signed: _____ Title: _____

BUCKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

SUPERCHLORINATION AFTER RECEIVING WEEKLY BACTERIOLOGICAL TEST FAILURE

1. Immediately close the pool including all units that share the same water.
2. Bring chlorine level to between 5-10 ppm (maintain throughout procedure).
3. Bring pH to 7.2-7.5.
4. Maintain levels for 8 hours or one complete turnover of the water.
5. If a **chlorine stabilizer** is used, double the time to 16 hours or two complete turnover periods.
6. Bring water chemistry back to recommended operational levels.
7. Complete the SA-115 and fax to BCDH.
8. Allow swimmers back into the water after the chlorine and pH have been returned to normal operating levels.
9. Repeat coliform sample.

SUPERCHLORINATION AFTER RECEIVING A STANDARD PLATE COUNT GREATER THAN 1000 CFU/ML

1. Close the pool at the end of the day.
2. Bring the chlorine level to between 5-10 ppm (maintain throughout procedure).
3. Bring pH to 7.2-7.5.
4. Maintain levels for 8 hours or one complete turnover of the water.
5. If a **chlorine stabilizer** is used, double the time to 16 hours or two complete turnover periods.
6. Bring water chemistry back to recommended operational levels.
7. Complete the SA-115 and fax to BCDH.
8. Allow swimmers back into the water after the chlorine and pH have been returned to normal operating levels.

BROMINE POOLS:

Follow same procedures as above, using chlorine.

**BUCKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Superchlorination Report
High Standard Plate Count or Positive Coliform**

BCDH Pool Facility ID#: _____

Pool Name: _____

Pool Address: _____

Date and time of treatment: _____

Pool/Spa/Water Feature: _____

Type of Contamination: _____

Stabilizer Used? Yes No Stabilizer Residual at start of Superchlorination: _____

Free Chlorine and pH Measurements spread over **8 hours**:

	Level at beginning of treatment	Level at end of treatment (min. 5 ppm)
Chlorine 5-10 ppm		
pH 7.2-7.5		

Total time pool/water feature was closed: _____

CPA on duty (print): _____

CPA signature: _____

CPA ID #: _____

Notes or Comments:

**Fax prior to reopening to the appropriate District Office
Doylestown 215-340-8456 Levittown 215-949-5819 Quakertown 215-529-7032**

BUCKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

HYPERCHLORINATION FOR A DIARRHEA INCIDENT

1. Immediately close the pool and any other pools connected to the same filter.
2. Remove as much of the fecal matter as possible using a net or bucket (do not vacuum)
3. Raise the free chlorine concentration to 20 ppm.
4. Maintain the pH at 7.5 or less.
5. Run the filter at these levels for at least 12.75 hours.
6. Backwash the filter to waste.
7. Complete the SA -116 and fax to BCDH.
8. Allow swimmers back into the water after the chlorine and pH have been returned to normal operating levels.

Hyperchlorination for a Bromine pool, same as above.

**BUCKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Hyerchlorination Report
Diarrhea Incident/NO Stabilizer Used**

BCDH Pool Facility ID#: _____

Pool Name: _____

Pool Address: _____

Date and time of treatment: _____

Pool/Spa/Water Feature: _____

Stabilizer Used? Yes No **If NO, continue with treatment. If YES, use SA-117 Diarrhea Incident with Stabilizer Report Form**

Free Chlorine and pH Measurements spread over **12.75 hours**:

	Level at beginning of treatment	Level at end of treatment (min. 20 ppm)
Chlorine 20 ppm		
pH 7.2-7.5		

Total time pool/water feature was closed: _____

CPA on duty (print): _____

CPA signature: _____

CPA ID #: _____

Notes or Comments:

**Fax prior to reopening to the appropriate District Office
Doylestown 215-340-8456 Levittown 215-949-5819 Quakertown 215-529-7032**

BUCKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

HYPERCHLORINATION FOR A DIARRHEA INCIDENT WITH A POOL USING A CHLORINE STABILIZER SUCH AS CYANURIC ACID, DICHLOR OR TRICHLOR

1. Immediately close the pool and any other pools connected to the same filter.
2. Remove as much of the fecal matter as possible using a net or bucket (do not vacuum).
3. Raise the free chlorine level to 40 ppm.
4. Reduce the pH level to 6.5.
5. Run the filter at these levels for 30 hours.
6. Backwash the filter to waste.
7. Complete the SA -117 and fax to BCDH.
8. Allow swimmers back into the water after the chlorine and pH have been returned to normal operating levels.

BUCKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Hyperchlorination Report Diarrhea Incident/With Stabilizer (Cyanuric Acid, Dichlor, Trichlor)

BCDH Pool Facility ID#: _____

Pool Name: _____

Pool Address: _____

Date and time of treatment: _____

Pool/Spa/Water Feature: _____

Stabilizer Used? Yes No Stabilizer level: _____

Free Chlorine and pH Measurements spread over **30 hours**:

	Level at beginning of treatment	Level at end of treatment (min. 40 ppm)
Chlorine 40 ppm		
pH 6.5		

Total time pool/water feature was closed: _____

CPA on duty (print): _____

CPA signature: _____

CPA ID #: _____

Notes or Comments:

Fax prior to reopening to the appropriate District Office
Doylestown 215-340-8456 Levittown 215-949-5819 Quakertown 215-529-7032

BUCKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

CHLORINATION FOR A FORMED STOOL ACCIDENT

1. Immediately close the pool and any other pools connected to the same filter.
2. Remove as much of the fecal matter as possible using a net or bucket (do not vacuum)
3. Raise the chlorine concentration to a minimum of 2 ppm and ensure that the water pH is between 7.2-7.5.
4. Maintain the chlorine concentration at 2ppm, pH 7.2-7.5 for at least 25 minutes before reopening the pool.
5. Complete the SA -118 and fax to BCDH.
6. Allow swimmers back into the water.

TREATMENT FOR A BROMINE POOL

1. Take bromine reading.
2. If bromine residual is less than 4 ppm, add chlorine to bring the total residual up to 4ppm.
3. Follow the same procedure as above.

CHLORINE POOL WITH CHLORINE STABILIZER

At this time, there is no standardized protocol to compensate for chlorine stabilizers. Note that chlorine stabilizers slow disinfection, therefore higher chlorine levels may be necessary to properly treat a formed stool fecal accident.

BUCKS COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Chlorination Report Formed Stool Incident

BCDH Pool Facility ID#: _____

Pool Name: _____

Pool Address: _____

Date and time of treatment: _____

Pool/Spa/Water Feature: _____

Stabilizer Used? Yes No

Free Chlorine and pH Measurements spread over **25 minutes**:

	Level at beginning of treatment	Level at end of treatment (min. 2 ppm)
Chlorine 2 ppm		
pH 7.2-7.5		

Total time pool/water feature was closed: _____

CPA on duty (print): _____

CPA signature: _____

CPA ID #: _____

Notes or Comments:

Fax prior to reopening to the appropriate District Office
Doylestown 215-340-8456 Levittown 215-949-5819 Quakertown 215-529-7032