



Maintenance of Public Pools & Spas

Please post this information in the equipment room.

Every pool site shall have a responsible person the Department of Health services representative can contact. A responsible person may be one of the following: An on-site manager, a maintenance person, another employee, or a homeowner. The responsible person shall be (a) knowledgeable in pool operations, (b) able to correct violations or call the pool service, and (c) authorized and able to immediately close the pool.

A responsible person is expected to check the water chemistry, safety requirements and equipment at least once a day, every day of the week, preferably before the pool is opened for use.

Water Chemistry

Free chlorine level shall be maintained at a minimum of 1.0 ppm (1.5 ppm in pools using cyanuric acid as a stabilizer) and less than 10.0 ppm. If the free chlorine level drops below 1.0 ppm or rises above 10 ppm, the pool/spa shall be immediately corrected by the pool/spa operator or closed. Ideally the free chlorine level should be maintained between 2 ppm and 3 ppm at all times.

pH is a measure of the acidity or alkalinity of water and directly affects the disinfecting action of chlorine as well as other reactions occurring in water. Maintain the pH between 7.2 and 8.0. If the pH is below 7.2 or above 8.0, the pool/spa shall be immediately corrected by the pool/spa operator or closed.

A test kit capable of testing for free chlorine (DPD test kit) and pH shall be provided. Use your test kit to check free chlorine and pH at least once a day (For pools with heavy use, it is recommended that the pool chemistry be checked more than once per day). A "Daily Pool/Spa Chemistry Log Sheet" with daily chlorine and pH readings and weekly cyanuric acid readings shall be maintained and made available onsite for review by our Department personnel.

Stabilizers (cyanuric acid) or conditioners may be added directly to the pool water. Cyanuric acid level shall not exceed 100 ppm. If the cyanuric acid level exceeds 100 ppm, the pool/spa shall be immediately corrected by the pool/spa operator or closed.

Recommended levels are 20 to 40 ppm.

Safety Requirements

All pools shall have the following:

1. A sign with 4-inch lettering stating, "WARNING: NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY" accompanied with the wording, "Children under the age of 14 should not use pool without an adult in attendance."

2. A sign with 4-inch lettering stating, "NO DIVING ALLOWED" is required for pools that are less than 6 feet deep.
3. Illustrated procedures for artificial respiration.
4. Emergency telephone number: 9-1-1
5. An occupant load sign showing maximum number of bathers allowed in the pool or spa at any one time (Pool occupancy = one bather for every 20 square feet of water surface area; Spa occupancy = one bather for every 10 square feet of water surface area).
6. A warning sign for spa pools which cautions against use under certain conditions.
7. A life ring with attached safety rope long enough to span the maximum width of the pool.
8. A twelve-foot rescue pole with an attached body hook.

Equipment

All parts of the pool and related pool facilities and equipment shall be maintained in good repair, including fences, gates, showers, restrooms, chlorinators, pumps, filters, flowmeters, and pressure gauges.

(The information provided above is only a guideline. Refer to "The Design, Construction, Operation, and Maintenance of Public Swimming Pools" from the *California Health and Safety Code and California Code of Regulations* for specific requirements.)