

## Pool Checklist

### Entries and Exits for pools and spas

- Minimum of two entry/exits: one at shallow end and one at deep end
- If the deep portion of pool is more than 30 feet wide, opposite sides of the deep part must have an entry/exit.
- If the shallow end is 2ft or less, that counts as an exit.  
**If shallow end is 18" or less, that counts as an exit.**
- Must be an entry/exit every 75 linear feet of wall**
- Steps, ladders have slip resistant surfaces
- Underwater steps have a horizontal slid or broken stripe at least 1" wide on the top surface along the front leading edge of each step, is in a contrasting color and is slip resistant.

### Suction Outlet Covers or Grates for Pools AND Spas

- Main drain covers or grates are provided. **(Immediate closure and shutting off of pump if broken, missing or loose.)**

### General Circulation Requirements for Pools AND Spas

- Turnover rate (hr) = Pool volume / Flow Rate / 60 min.**
- Vacuum gauge installed on suction side of pump
- Inlet pressure gauge installed
- Outlet filter gauge installed
- Flow meter is installed and accurate to within 10% of true flow
- Flow rate = Pool volume / Turnover Rate / 60 min.**
- Turnover rate in pools must be 8 hours or less
- Turnover rate in spas must be 30 minutes
- Wading pools pre 10/01/99 turnover every 1 hour unless it gravity drains into a pool.
- A vacuum cleaning system must be provided
- Pools with average depth of 4 feet or greater has turnover of 6 hours**

- Pools with shallower depth, turnover rate is the average depth x 1.5
- Wading pools post 10/01/99 must turn over once per hour, no exceptions.
- Circulation system components are accessible for inspection

### Labeling of Exposed Piping for Pools and Spas

- Exposed piping is labeled to identify the piping function and direction of flow.

### Filters on Pools AND Spas

- Filter is installed to that surfaces are accessible for inspection
- Filters must have a readily observable sight glass or free fall installed on the waste discharge line so that the filter washing progress may be observed.

### Pumps and Motors on Pools AND Spas

- Pump is isolated from potable water supply by a backflow prevention device.
- Unless it has a vacuum filter, the pump should have a cleanable strainer that is accessible and can be cleaned routinely.

### Suction Outlets and Return Inlets on Pools AND Spas

- Vacuum outlets must have a cover that automatically closes and latches and may only be opened with a tool **unless** it is located in a covered skimmer basket
- Vacuum outlets (if they have them) are sealed or covered properly. **(Immediate closure if a cover is broken or missing and the pump must be shut off).**
- If there are skimmer equalizer lines, they must be covered or sealed.
- Automatic cleaners (pool sharks) are not in use while facility is open.

- All suction covers must be stamped as ASME/ANSI
- All suction covers must show the GPM approved for the cover.
- GPM stamped on the cover is not exceeded by the GPM flow of the pool as measured by the flow meter.
- A replacement cover is kept on site (does not apply to grates that are 24" or larger)
- All grates (if they have them) must be at minimum a diagonal of 24"
- If the pool has a grate that is less than 24" diagonal and no approved cover is manufactured and available, then that cover may be used.
- If pool is 4ft or less, must have either:
  - Dual main drains with an SVRS
  - Single main drain with an SVRS
  - Dual main drains at least 3 feet apart and not more than 20 feet apart, with a minimum diagonal measurement of 24" for the grate/cover.
- Wading pools do not need to have an SVRS or main drain if they gravity feed into a bigger pool that complies.
- If pool is more than 4ft, must have either:
  - 2 main drains at least 3 feet apart, no more than 20 feet.
  - 1 main drain and an SVRS

**If built after September 2004:**

- Must have 2 maindrains with approved covers or grates.**
- Distance between the covers/grates must be at least 3 feet apart and no more than 20 feet apart.**
- Maindrains are at the lowest part of the pool/spa floor**
- If it is 4ft deep or less with covers/grates less than 24" diagonal must have an SVRS.**
- Must have a minimum of 2 return inlets per pool**
- Must have a minimum of 2 return inlets per spa**
- All return inlets do not stick out more than 1" beyond the wall and are at least 12" below the water level.**
- Return inlets on the pool/spa floor must be flush with the floor.**

- If the pool has 2 balanced maindrains, grates that are 12x12” can be used if no approved cover is manufactured in that size.

### Surface Skimming and Gutter Systems for Pools and Spas

- If a gutter system is used, it has to go around at least 50% of the perimeter
- If a gutter system is used, the water level should be slightly over the lip
- If a skimmer system is used, the water level is within operating range of the skimmers

### Electrical Requirements for pools and spas

- Each electrical outlet in the pool/spa yard is GFI
- Each electrical outlet in a dressing/restroom is GFI
- Each electrical line to underwater lights is GFI
- Light/equipment switches are between 5-10 ft from the wall of pool or spa, it must be grounded with a GFCI
- Pump is GFI
- If pool is outdoor, electrical overhead lines may be no closer than 20 feet
- An electrical disconnect/switch must be accessible for service personnel, located within sight of the pool/spa equipment and located at least 5 feet away from the pool/spa. (If removing a plug from an outlet is how they do it, that counts)
- A pump shut off switch for use by spa users is required
- Pump shut off switch is clearly labeled as “Emergency Spa Shutoff”
- Pump shut off switch is located within sight of the spa or there is a sign visible from the spa in letters at least 1” that states the location of the shutoff switch
- Pump shut off switch is not behind a locked door or gate
- Pump shut off switch is at least greater than 5ft from the spa.
- If pool is outdoor and was built after '04, overhead electrical lines can be no closer than 22.5 feet to water.

- If pool is outdoor, overhead electrical lines can be no closer than 14.5 feet from the top of an observation stand/diving board, etc.
- If pool was built between '99 and '04, over head electrical lines may pass as low as 20 feet.

### **Heating for Pools and Spas**

- If over 200,000 BTU, a current certificate of operations from TDLR is on site
- A break resistant thermometer designed for use in spas is available to users/staff to monitor spa water temperature.
- Control for the water temperature is not accessible to the spa user
- Heater is grounded GFI

### **Water Supply for Pools and Spas**

- Water is from a potable water supply
- There is no direct connection of waste lines to the sewer system
- The open end of the fill spout is covered with something soft and pliable
- The end of the soft pliable outlet has an air gap from the pool/spa water.
- If a fill spout is used, it must be located under a diving board, next to a ladder or otherwise shielded so it is not a trip hazard.

### **Drinking water at Pools and Spas**

- Water is from a potable water supply
- At least one drinking fountain is provided and available to users of pool/spa.

### **Waste Water Disposal at Pools and Spas**

- Backwash is discharged by an air gap above any overflow level.

### **Disinfectant Equipment and Chemical Feeders on Pools and Spas**

- Automatic sanitizer feeder is installed
- They have proper PPE (gloves, goggles) for handling chemicals
- Disinfecting chemicals are stored in a place where users do not have access
- Dry chemicals are stored off the floor
- Chemical tanks are labeled to indicate the tank's contents

- Chemical containers have covers/lid
- Chemicals are EPA registered
- Shocking/supplemental hand feeding is not done while the pool/spa is in use
- Pool and spa skimmer baskets are not used to feed sanitizer
- Sanitizer is introduced downstream of filter and heater.

### **Specific Safety Features for Pools and Spas**

- In All Class A and B pools over 5 feet deep:
  - Transition from shallow to deep should have a 4” minimum width color contrasting line on the bottom of the pool floor.
  - If applicable, a float line should be between the 1 ft and 2ft depth change.
- In all Class C Pools over 5 feet deep, transition from shallow to deep should have a 4” minimum width color contrasting line on the bottom of the pool floor.
- If there are float lines in any pool, it has to be securely fastened to the wall/deck.
- Sidewall and deck depth markers in pools are at least 4” in letter height
- Sidewall and deck depth markers in pools are in a contrasting readable color
- Sidewall and deck depth markers in pools are at every 2 foot of depth change
- Sidewall and deck depth markers in pools are at max and min points of depth as well as the 5ft depth if the pool is over 5ft.
- Depth and unit markers on decks of pools are slip resistant, within 24” of water’s edge and can be read while facing the water.
- Depth and unit markers on pool sidewalls shall have at least 50% of the sidewall marker above the water.
- Sidewall and deck depth markers in pools have the unit of measurement either spelled out or abbreviated. Not just “ and ‘.
- Sidewall and deck depth markers in pools are at 25 ft intervals with at least 1 per side.
- Depth and unit markers on sidewalls are in the top 4.5” of pool wall with a readable portion above the water level.
  - Sidewall rule does not apply for the edges of a 0-depth entry pool

- Sidewall rule does not apply for pools with gutter systems. Markers for those pools should be placed in first 6” of deck or on a vertical wall or fence within 10ft of the water’s edge. Otherwise, sidewall markers are not required for these pools.
- Vanishing edge pools do not require sidewall markers where there is no edge.
- The words “NO DIVING” and the international symbol are marked on the pool deck in contrasting color at least 4” in height.
  - This above notification must be every 25 feet around the pool deck where the water is 6ft or less.
  - Warning signs are slip resistant
  - Warning signs are within 24” of water edge and can be read while standing on the deck facing the water
- If there is a permanent structure above the pool deck (like balconies, etc), the “no diving” warning and symbol in 4” height shall be affixed to the structure.

### **Signage for pools**

- Signs are readily visible from pool enclosure
- For Class C and D pools with no lifeguard, a “NO DIVING” sign with the international symbol should be up, 4” in height.
- Also, pools with no lifeguard should have a sign that says “WARNING-NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY” at least 4” in height.
- Pools with no lifeguard should have a sign that says “CHILDREN SHOULD NOT USE POOL WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION”.
- If the telephone is not visible from the pool or spa, there must be directions regarding its location.

### **Lifeguards**

- Lifeguards are required at Class A pools during competition events, Class B pools and Class C pools with a diving board or slide that is not locked or chained to prevent use.

- Lifeguards have a current ARC “Lifeguard Training” certificate or equivalent, which also includes CPR and First Aid.
- Lifeguards are watching the pool, not doing other duties that would distract them
- An additional lifeguard or second responder is onsite who has a minimum of CPR and First Aid.
- Lifeguards and second responders have training in effective pool emergency procedures and that training is current.
- The pool facilities has a pre-season training program that is documented
- The pool facility has a continual “in-service” training program for all lifeguards, minimum of 1 hour/ week with documentation.
- The pool facility has performance “audits” as recommended by YMCA/ARC with documentation.
- The pool facility has an emergency action plan similar to ARC and YMCA with documentation
- Management at the facility has a current file with each staff person’s current certification with expiration dates.
- Lifeguards have sufficient break time from guarding activities.

### **Lifeguard chairs and equipment for pools**

- A pool with a diving board must have at least 1 elevated lifeguard chair
- The seat of the chair must be at least 4ft above the pool deck
- If the width of the pool is 45ft or more, an additional elevated chair or station must be provided and located in the diving area on the opposite side of the pool.
- Lifeguards and second responders are dressed in swim attire.

### **Pool safety equipment**

- All class A, B and C pools with less than 2,000 square feet must have a non-conductive reaching pool, at least 12 ft. long with a hook at the end.
- All class A, B and C pools with less than 2,000 square feet must have a USCG Ring buoy with a throwing rope at least 2/3 the width of the pool.



- If the pool is between 2,000-4,000 square feet, an additional ring buoy and reaching pole is provided.
- If the pool is over 4,000 square feet, an additional reaching pole and ring buoy is required for every 6,000 feet over 4,000 square feet.
- All lifesaving equipment is mounted in conspicuous places around the deck within 20 feet of the pool.
- All class A, B and C pools that have a diving board, slide or lifeguard must have at least 1 backboard with a minimum of 3 tie-down straps and a head immobilizer.
- Class A and B pools with lifeguards must have a first aid kit meeting OSHA requirements. (standard 24 unit kit in a plastic containers).

### **Telephones at pool and spas**

- Pools and spas must have a telephone that can summon emergency service immediately. Cannot be answered by an onsite office.
- Emergency phone is within 200 feet from the pool or spa water.
- The phone can be either inside or outside of the pool yard as long as the door/gate is never locked or the gate/fence is not more than 4'4".
- The phone must be located outside of the pool/spa yard if the entry gate/door is locked, the gate/fence is more than 4'4" AND the pool/spa is a hotel, motel, apartment, condominium, mobile home park, HOA, club, school, college. All three of those must occur to require the phone to be outside the yard.
- Each entry gate/door of pool/spa yard that is locked must have a sign on the exterior the gate/door or the wall adjacent to the gate/door that states the location of the phone outside the enclosure in letters at least 1" high: This rule only applies if the telephone is located outside the yard of a Class A or B pool or if the telephone is required to be outside the enclosure per the previous rule.
- Regardless of anything, a sign must be in the pool/spa yard in plain view of pool/spa in letters 1" high "In case of emergency, Call 911".
- If the telephone is not readily visible from the pool/spa, the sign in the pool/spa yard must have a concise description of the location of the telephone.

### **Pool Yard and Spa Enclosures for Class A, B and residential youth camps.**

- They are enclosed by either a fence, portion of building, wall or other enclosure
- If a building is part of the enclosure, they can only have doors and gates that open into the pool yard if: They go into a restroom, storage room, etc., The room does not have any openings to the outside of the enclosure.
- Enclosure must be at least 6ft high
- Enclosure has no openings through which a 4" sphere could pass.
- Enclosure cannot be readily climbed
- Gates/doors are either directly and continuously supervised by staff or locked.

### **Class C and Class D pools at a Class C Facility subject to HSC 757 (Apartments, HOA, multi-unit dwellings, etc.)**

- Must be at least 48" high
- Gates/doors are self closing and self-latching
- Gates/doors have the capability of being locked.
- Gates open outward from the pool yard.
- 4" sphere cannot pass under the enclosure when located on a solid surface (I.E. concrete) and a 2" sphere cannot pass under the enclosure when located on a non-solid surface. (I.E. grass, dirt)
- If enclosure has horizontal bars and they are at least 45" or more between, a 4" sphere may not pass through enclosure
- If the enclosure has horizontal bars and they are at less than 45" between, a 1 3/4" sphere may not pass through enclosure.
- Chainlink is not allowed to be installed after 1994.
- No decorative designs or cutouts in enclosure allow anything greater than 1 3/4" sphere to pass through.
- Planters/other structures that might allow people to climb over the enclosure are not within 36" from the outside of the enclosure
- Gates/doors are not propped open
- Latch must be either outside of the pool enclosure and a minimum of 54" above the ground or;

- ❑ Latch must be on the inside of the pool enclosure side and 3” below top of the gate/door with no openings exceeding ½” within 18” of the latch
- ❑ If built after 1994, a door, sliding glass door or French door may not open in the pool yard.
- ❑ If built before 1994, the door must latch automatically, must be self-closing and have a keyless bolting device between 36”-48” above the floor.
- ❑ If French doors were built before 1994 and open into the pool yard, one of the doors must latch automatically, be self closing and have a keyless bolting device between 36”-48” above the floor AND the other door must have a keyless bolting device that goes into the top of the door and bottom of the door
- ❑ If a sliding glass door was built before 1994 and it opens into the pool yard, it must have a latch or security bar not more than 48” above the floor and a sliding door pin-lock not more than 48” above the floor.
- ❑ The only exemptions to the above rules is if the door, French doors or sliding glass door is in an area of the building not used by residents and that has no access to the outside of the pool yard.
- ❑ If built before 1994, a wall with windows that serves as part of the enclosure must have every window with a latch and the window screen is affixed to the window.
- ❑ If built after 1994, a wall with windows may only be used if the windows are permanently sealed.
- ❑ Pool enclosure is inspected monthly for damages

**Enclosures for Class C pools and spas and Class D pools at Class C facilities NOT subject to HSC 757 (hotels, youth camps, RV parks)**

- ❑ Enclosure must be at least 48” in height.
- ❑ Openings in or under may not permit a 4” sphere to pass through when located on a solid surface. (I.E. concrete)
- ❑ Openings in or under may not permit a 2” sphere to pass through when located on a non-solid surface. (I.E. grass, dirt)
- ❑ Planters/other structures that might allow people to climb over the enclosure are not within 36” from the outside of the enclosure.

- Gates must be self-closing and latching and must be latched when pool/spa is not in use
- Must self close when opened 6"
- Latch/opener is at least 54 inches above the deck or walkway when located on the outside of the enclosure
- Latch/opener may be located 3 inches below the top of the gate when located on the inside of the enclosure and must not have a gap exceeding 1/2" within 18 inches of the latch
- Gate is capable of being locked
- Gate must be locked if for a Class A or B pool or spa and it is not open for use
- Gate must be locked if it is for a Class C pool or spa or a Class D pool at a Class C facility and it has to be closed because of repairs, hazards, etc.
- Gate is not propped open knowingly unless an employee is present and watching the door at all times.
- Gates must open outward away from pool or spa
- Chainlink is not allowed to be installed after 2004**
- Windows that are capable of being opened are not allowed as part of a pool enclosure**
- Doors or gates that can be opened are not allowed unless the doors/gates go into a storage room, restroom, dressing room, etc., the room is a dead end.**

### **Dressing and Sanitary Facilities**

- Facilities are clean/sanitary
- Adequate ventilation is in place to prevent objectionable odors**
- All areas are easily cleanable**
- Class A, B pools and spas and Class D pools operated with a Class A,B pool/spa**
  - Must have separate dressing and restrooms for male/female.**
  - Rooms are well lit, drained, ventilated, in good construction.**
  - At least 1 shower and dressing booth for each gender is provided.**  
(Unless it is only open to 1 gender at a time)

- Partitions between dressing areas/showers/etc, are made of durable material not subject to water damage. There is a waterway between the partitions and the floor to provide for cleaning with hoses and brooms.
- Floors are slip resistant and smooth enough to provide easy cleaning
- Floor drains are provided and the floors are somewhat sloped towards the drains.
- All other Class A, B, C or D pools/spas:
  - Showers/sink water temperature is controlled by anti-scald devices.
  - Water is at least 90F in shower

### **Sanitary Facilities for pools/spas in apartments, hotels, motels or condominiums**

- These facilities are not required to have showers, dressing rooms, toilets.

### **If showers, toilets, dressing rooms are provided at any pool/spa**

- There must soap at each sink (no glass)
- Any mirrors must be shatter resistant
- Toilet paper holders and paper must be at each toilet
- Covered trash is provided
- Paper towels are provided.

### **Food, Beverages and Containers**

- No people are eating, drinking or smoking while in the pool/spa
- Food and beverages are only served in non-breakable containers
- Glass containers are not allowed in pool/spa yard.
- Trash containers are provided where food and beverages are allowed

### **Operation and Management**

Class A or B pools have a certified operator through AFO, CPO, POOL, PPSO or LAFT.

Off season outdoor pools/spas should have maintained clarity and algae growth is prevented (Not chemicals, just clarity and algae growth)

Off season outdoor pools/spas do not stink, aren't breeding mosquitoes

Pets/animals are not allowed in the enclosure (except service animals. They may go on the deck, not in the water)

Chemicals are EPA registered

Load limits are calculated and posted for pools and spas

### Water Quality

- Chlorine residual in pool is between 1-8 ppm \_\_\_\_\_
- Bromine residual in pool is between 2.5-12ppm \_\_\_\_\_
- Chlorine residual in spa is between 2-8ppm \_\_\_\_\_
- Bromine residual in spa is between 4.5-12ppm \_\_\_\_\_
- Combined Pool Chlorine (at 0) \_\_\_\_\_
- Combined Spa Chlorine (at 0) \_\_\_\_\_
- Pool pH (7.0-7.8) \_\_\_\_\_
- Spa pH (7.0-7.8) \_\_\_\_\_
- Main drain is visible \_\_\_\_\_
- Spa temperature (max 104F) \_\_\_\_\_
- Cyanuric Acid (max 100ppm) \_\_\_\_\_
- DPD test kit is on site
- All Class A and B pools are conducting pH and sanitizer tests every 2 hours unless they have an automatic adjuster for sanitizer and pH. Then they only have to do it once per day.
- All Class A and B pools have operational records that are kept for 2 years and available for inspection.

### Construction standards

- For air blowers in spas, a manually operated timer switch located as to require the exiting of the spa to reset shall be provided.
- Spa timer must automatically shut the blower and circulation pump off in 15 minutes or when manually switched to the off position.

## Other safety-related requirements for spas

- Spas operated with a Class A or B pool must have a 24-unit first aid kit.
- Spa should have a telephone or the proper signage as in the above rules
- Spa yard enclosures are subject to the above enclosure rules, same as pools
- Spas must have deck depth markers with numbers and units of measurement in 4”
- Must be at least 2 deck depth markers for the spa
- Spa deck depth markers are located within 24” of water edge and can be read standing on the deck facing the water.
- Deck depth markers in spa are slip resistant
- Units of measurement must either be spelled out or abbreviated. Not just ‘ or “
- Signage in the spa area includes:
  - Location of the nearest telephone
  - **“DO NOT USE THE SPA, IF THE WATER TEMPREATURE IS ABOVE 104 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT (40 DEGREES CENTIGRADE)”** in letters 1” high.
  - **“WARNING - NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY”** in at least 4” letters if no lifeguard is required.
  - **“CHILDREN SHOUL DNOT USE SPA WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION”** in letters 2” high if no lifeguard is required.
  - **Maximum user load limit sign**

## Therapeutic Pools and Spas

Are only covered by certain sections. Double check before doing one of these.

