

CHAPTER 3 PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS

SECTION 3.1 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this chapter,

“Pool Operator” means an individual at least eighteen (18) years of age and who meets the requirements of Pool Supervisory Personnel as defined in Section 19a-13-B33b(b)2 of the Connecticut Public Health Code. This Supervisory Personnel shall be designated by the Owner to be responsible for the day to day operation and maintenance of the pool, the keeping of records and the activities and regulations pertaining to bathers.

“Public Pool” means an artificial basin constructed of concrete, steel, fiberglass or other relatively impervious material intended for recreational bathing, swimming, diving or therapeutic purposes, which is located either indoors or outdoors and is provided with a controlled water supply and which is not used or intended to be used as a pool at a single-family residence. The term also includes a pool located at a single-family residence which is used or intended to be used for commercial or business purposes. The term "Public Pool" includes any related equipment, structures, areas and enclosures that are intended for the use of the pool patrons or pool staff such as toilet, dressing, locker, shower and pool equipment rooms.

“Pool Supervisory Person” is defined as a person knowledgeable in the operation of the pool and in pool water chemistry and testing, and shall possess a Certified Pool Operator license.

SECTION 3.2 APPLICATION AND ISSUANCE OF LICENSE

Any Owner or Pool Operator within the Health District, owning, operating or maintaining any Public Pool shall possess a valid License.

SECTION 3.3 POOL SUPERVISORY PERSON

A Pool Supervisory Person, knowledgeable in the operation of a Public Pool and in pool water chemistry and testing, shall be on duty whenever the pool is open for use. This person shall oversee the duties of any other workers and shall have primary responsibility for operation of the facility. The Pool Supervisory Person may train other workers to perform routine pool water testing and other routine functions when the Pool Supervisory Person is not on site. This training must be documented in writing. Names of Pool Supervisory Personnel shall be submitted to the Director of Health annually and whenever a change in such personnel occurs. A copy of the Pool Supervisory Person's CPO license shall be provided to the Health District for the file.

SECTION 3.4 DISINFECTION AND TESTING OF PUBLIC POOL WATER

Public Pool water shall be disinfected by an automatic disinfectant feeder which imparts a measurable residual at all times when the pool is in use. This chemical feeder shall comply with the standards of the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) or other standards approved by the Commissioner of Health.

When chlorine is used as a disinfectant, a free available chlorine residual of at least 0.8 mg/l shall be maintained throughout the pool. If cyanuric acid is used to stabilize the free available residual chlorine, or if chlorinated isocyanurate compounds are used, the concentration of cyanuric acid in the water shall not exceed 100 mg/l and a free available chlorine residual of at least 1.5 mg/l shall be maintained throughout the pool whenever it is open for use.

When chlorine is used in public spas, a free available chlorine residual of at least 1.0 mg/l shall be maintained throughout the public spa whenever it is open for use.

If other disinfecting chemicals are used, residuals of equal disinfecting strength shall be maintained.

A test kit for measuring the concentration of disinfectant, accurate to within 0.1 mg/l shall be provided at each pool. The test kit shall be a D.P.D. (diethyl-p-phenylene-diamine) kit capable of testing for free available chlorine, total chlorine, pH and alkalinity. Chemicals in the test kits shall be replaced yearly.

The pool water shall be maintained at a pH value of not less than 7.2 and not greater than 7.8. Total alkalinity shall be maintained between 80 and 120 ppm. Testing equipment for measuring pH and alkalinity shall be provided in the pool area.

In the event of a fecal, vomit or blood incident the facility must follow the Connecticut Department of Public Health "Recommended procedure for clean-up of fecal, vomit and blood incidents in and around public swimming pools and whirlpool spas".

SECTION 3.5 PUBLIC POOL RECORDKEEPING

A Public Pool record including all test results shall be maintained on a daily basis by the Pool Operator. Immediately prior to the daily opening of the Public Pool for use, tests shall be made to determine the amount of residual disinfectant and the pH value. These tests shall be repeated at a minimum of three times a day including before opening, midday and at closing time, and more frequently during periods of heavy bather use to assure that an adequate disinfectant level and pH value are maintained. Whenever tests indicate that an inadequate disinfectant level or inappropriate pH value is present, immediate action shall be taken to reestablish an appropriate disinfectant level and/or pH value. The pool shall be closed until the water chemistry balance can be restored.

Public Pool records including daily test results, maintenance procedures, flow rates, fecal, vomit or blood incident logs and any other records shall be kept on file by the Pool Operator for a minimum of six (6) months and provided to the Director of Health or Environmental Health Specialist if requested.

SECTION 3.6 PUBLIC POOL EQUIPMENT

All pool pumps, filters and automatic disinfectant feeders shall comply with the standards of the National Sanitation Foundation (NSF) and shall be capable of keeping the pool water clean and of satisfactory bacterial quality and chemical balance.

All indoor pools shall be provided with an air handling system in continuous operation, including providing the required amount of outdoor air, operated in compliance with the original system design and manufacturer's specifications.

Equipment rooms and equipment shall be kept in good repair and in a clean and sanitary condition.

Drain grates/suction fittings shall be vandal-proof, designed to prevent limb/body/hair entrapment, and shall be secured in place in a manner that will prevent removal by bathers.

A. Deck Equipment

Handrails shall be provided at all steps and ladders and shall be properly secured to the pool deck or pool.

B. Accessibility

All outdoor Public Pools shall be surrounded by a barrier (fence) which shall be at least four (4) feet high and designed to discourage access by unauthorized persons. Entry gates shall be self-closing and self-latching. When the pool is not open for use, access to the pool shall be prevented.

C. Life Saving Equipment

Each Public Pool shall be provided with one unit of life saving equipment for each 100 feet of perimeter of the pool or portion thereof. Life poles or shepard's crooks shall be mounted in permanent sockets at the deep end of the Public Pool. Lifesaving equipment shall be mounted around the Public Pool on fences or barriers of outside Public Pools and room walls of indoor pools. One unit of life saving equipment shall consist of a ring buoy, fifteen (15) inches inside diameter, attached to fifty (50) feet of one quarter inch line, and a life pole or shepard's crook twelve (12) feet in length.

D. Depth Markers

Depth markers shall be provided on the Public Pool rim at points of minimum and maximum depths and where the pool floor changes slope. Depth markers shall be visible from within the pool and while standing on the pool deck. The numerals shall be at least four (4) inches high and be of a contrasting color with the pool background.

E. Required Signs

Warning Signs.

- When no lifeguard is on duty, a warning sign shall be placed in plain view. It shall be in letters at least four (4) inches high and shall state "Warning – No Lifeguard on Duty".
- No Diving in Shallow Area of pool.

F. Other Required Signs

A sign stating the following shall be posted at the pool and dressing room in printing at least one-half inch high:

- All persons shall bathe with warm water and soap before entering the pool.

- Any persons known or suspected of having a communicable disease shall not use the pool.
- Urinating, defecating, spitting or blowing the nose in the pool is prohibited.
- Running and rough play is prohibited in the pool and within the pool enclosure.

All Public Pools shall have posted at their entrance the following:

- Directions to the nearest telephone, the nearest first aid kit and resuscitation equipment.
- The telephone number in print at least one-half inch high of the nearest police, fire and emergency service provider (911 is an acceptable alternative). These telephone numbers shall also be posted at the pool telephone along with the pool address.

Whirlpool Signs

- Elderly persons, pregnant women, persons taking certain medications and those with low blood pressure should consult a physician before using the whirlpool.
- Do not use when consuming alcohol.
- Do not use alone.
- No unsupervised children under 14 years old allowed in or around the whirlpool.
- A recommended time limit must be posted (generally 15 minutes).

G. First Aid

Every Public Pool shall be equipped with an American National Red Cross standard twenty-four-unit first aid kit or equivalent. The first aid kit shall be kept filled and ready for use. The kit shall be available for use, and signage posted at the entrance to the pool area indicating its location.

H. Telephones

There shall be a telephone or other suitable device for emergency communication readily available in the immediate vicinity of each Public Pool. This telephone or device shall be permanently located on the premises where the pool is located. Signage shall be posted at the entrance to the pool area indicating the location of the telephone and providing directions on use of the phone, if needed, such as “dial 9 for an outside line”.

SECTION 3.7 FOOD, DRINK AND ANIMALS PROHIBITED

Food, drink or animals shall not be allowed within the required enclosure barrier surrounding the Public Pool. Drinking water shall be made available in the pool area either from a source of potable running water or bottled water, with single use drinking cups if appropriate. No glass containers shall be allowed within the pool enclosure.