



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
County of Riverside

INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN NO. 7-93-DES

DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DIVISION

SWIMMING POOL AND SPA SELF-INSPECTION CHECKLIST

The items listed in this bulletin are the areas our Department will be inspecting when we perform our routine pool or spa inspections. As you can see there are many things that your inspector will be checking each time they visit your facility. Some violations are so serious that they warrant the immediate closure of the pool or spa. It is important that you understand what issues fall into this category.

THE POOL/SPA WILL BE CLOSED IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS EXIST:

- No free disinfectant residual available
- Heavy algae growth
- Pool/Spa bottom cannot be seen due to poor water clarity
- Main drain(s) cover(s) damaged, missing, or loose
- Loose, missing, or damaged underwater light
- Missing or broken pool enclosures, including fencing and gates
- Any existing condition which could actually or potentially threaten the public health, welfare, or safety

IF ANY OF THESE ARE PRESENT, YOUR POOL OR SPA MUST CLOSE UNTIL THESE CONDITIONS ARE CORRECTED

SELF-INSPECTION CHECKLIST

The following checklist is provided so that you may perform periodic reviews of your facility's operation. We suggest that you go through this checklist, and "check off" those items that are in compliance. Those not checked would be considered a "violation" during our inspection and need to be corrected. We hope this checklist assists you in maintaining your pool and/or spa at the highest standards. It will help you be better prepared for routine inspections.

WATER QUALITY

- Free chlorine residual maintained at:
 - Pools with cyanuric acid: minimum level of 2.0 ppm, but not to exceed 10 ppm
 - Pools without cyanuric acid: minimum level of 1.0 ppm, but not to exceed 10 ppm
 - Spas, wading pools, spray grounds: minimum level of 3.0 ppm, but not to exceed 10 ppm
- pH maintained between 7.2 and 7.8
- Cyanuric acid maintained at 100 ppm or less
- Water clean and clear- bottom of pool clearly visible from deck
- Water test kit provided (DPD test kit or equivalent)
- No algae growth in pool water, on shell, or on tile
- Water temperature does not exceed 104°F

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SAFETY SIGNS AND LIFE SAVING EQUIPMENT

Signs required:

- “POOL/SPA CAPACITY”: 4” high letters and numbers. Not required for wading pools or spray grounds. Pool capacity = 1 person for each 20 sq. ft. Spa capacity = 1 person for each 10 sq. ft.
- “NO DIVING”: Required at pools 6 ft. deep or less. 4” high letters
- “NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY”: 4” high letters
“Children under the age of 14 shall not use pool without a parent or adult guardian in attendance”. 1” high letters
- Artificial respiration and CPR: An illustrated diagram in 1/4” high letters of procedures
- Emergency sign: “911”, phone # of the nearest emergency services, and the name and street address of the pool site. 4” high letters and numbers
- “KEEP GATE CLOSED” or “KEEP DOOR CLOSED”: 4” high letters.
Posted on the exterior side of all gates or doors.
- Diarrhea: 1” high letters stating “Persons having currently active diarrhea or who have had active diarrhea within the previous 14 days shall not be allowed to enter the pool water”. Posted at the entrance of the pool area

All signs posted in a conspicuous place and maintained in a legible manner

Life ring (min. 17 in. outer diameter) with attached rope, long enough to span the maximum width of the pool

Body hook with permanently attached 12 ft. (min.) fixed-length pole

Depth markers clearly visible (located at maximum and minimum depths on both sides; at the break in slope; at both ends; and a minimum of every 25 ft. around pool perimeter)

Depth markers located on pool deck in good repair and slip-resistant

No dividing markers (with universal symbol of no diving) on deck next to depth markers (if applicable)

FENCING/DECKING

Pool/spa enclosed with approved fencing (min. 5 ft. high, openings less than 4 in., and over a hard, permanent material)

Gates and doors are self-closing and self-latching (with the hand-activated hardware 42-44” above the ground)

A 4 ft. (min.) unobstructed deck space provided around entire pool and around at least half of spa

Pool/spa deck and coping in good repair and slip-resistant, with no pooling water

RECIRCULATION SYSTEM

Effluent and influent gauges installed at the same height and functional (if applicable)

Functional pressure gauge on filter marked with the clean start-up pressure reading

Functional vacuum gauge on each pump system

Flowmeter installed and functional

Approved automatic chlorinator in operation

Properly secured, approved anti-entrapment suction outlet covers provided for main drain(s), equalizer lines, and any other suction line

Skimmers properly functioning with all components in good working condition -weir assembly and basket clean

Piping labeled with arrows indicating direction of flow

Where equipment for more than one pool is located on-site, equipment is labeled as to which pool the system serves

Approved separation tank installed on all diatomaceous earth filtration system’s backwash lines

Backwash pipe leads to an approved wastewater disposal site (e.g. sanitary sewer, dry well, etc.) with a minimum 1” legal air gap

Equipment room is clean and is limited to authorized persons only

Secondary anti-entrapment device installed and functional for pools without properly split suction outlets

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PUBLIC RESTROOMS & ANCILLARY FACILITIES (if present)

- All sinks, toilets, urinals, showers, drinking fountains, diaper changing stations, etc. clean and in good repair
- Waste receptacle in each toilet facility
- Floors, walls, and ceilings clean and in good repair
- Hot and cold water provided at all sinks and showers with maximum water temperature of 110°F
- Soap and paper towels provided in dispensers at all hand sinks, soap dispensers at showers (except deck showers)

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- Current Environmental Health permit (or copy) posted on site (pump room, mgr.'s office, etc.)
- Daily records of pool maintenance and operation available for review (refer to Informational Bulletin: *Swimming Pool Operator's Monthly Report*)
- Pool is under supervision of a responsible individual
- Recirculation system is in operation whenever pool is available for use
- Pool light secure and in good operating condition
- GFCI installed and properly functioning
- All tile on pool sides, spa benches, step treads, and line of demarcation are in good repair (not cracked or missing)
- Ladders and handrails secure (not loose) and in good repair
- Animals are excluded from the pool site enclosure
- Shell is in good condition- no chipping/pitting or staining
- Hose bibs available for use to clean decking and equipped with a permanent backflow prevention device
- Water level maintained at midpoint of skimmer opening to ensure proper circulation

SPAS ONLY

- Spa precaution sign posted, with clear legible letters, which contain the following language:
"CAUTION" 4" high letters, and shall include the following language in 1" high letters:
 - o Elderly persons, pregnant women, infants and those with health conditions requiring medical care should consult with a physician before entering a spa
 - o Unsupervised use by children under the age of 14 yrs. is prohibited
 - o Hot water immersion while under the influence of alcohol, narcotics, drugs, or medicines may lead to serious consequences and is not recommended
 - o DO NOT USE ALONE
 - o Prolonged exposure may result in nausea, dizziness, or fainting
- Spa has at least 2 depth markers clearly visible
- Functional emergency shut-off switch. The switch must: turn off both the recirculation equipment and jet system; be located adjacent to the spa; be easily accessible to bathers; and be easily identified by a clearly posted sign.

If you have any questions, please contact your local area office and ask to speak with your Environmental Health Specialist.

*Document available in an alternate format upon request

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