



Public Health Department

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Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Title 22 CCR Changes Effective January 1, 2015

Pool Chemistry Requirements

		Free Chlorine Residual parts per million (ppm)				Bromine Residual (ppm)		pH	Combined Chlorine (ppm)
		Without Cyanuric Acid		With Cyanuric Acid		Min	Max		
		Min	Max	Min	Max				
Public Pools <i>All public pools (excluding spas, wading pools, and spray grounds)</i>	NEW ≥ 01/01/15	1.0	10.0	2.0	10.0	2.0	-	7.2-7.8	0.0 - 0.4
	OLD < 01/01/15	1.0	-	1.5	-	N/A	N/A	7.2-8.0	N/A
Public Spas, Wading Pools, and Spray Grounds	NEW ≥ 01/01/15	3.0	10.0	3.0	10.0	4.0	-	7.2-7.8	0.0 - 0.4
	OLD < 01/01/15	1.0	-	1.5	-	N/A	N/A	7.2-8.0	N/A

Critical Closure Violations

VIOLATION DESCRIPTION: CHANGES ARE BOLDED	
1	Failure to maintain clean pool water and clear pool water requirements Bottom of pool, at the maximum depth, is not clearly visible from the deck
2	Inadequate disinfection Failure to meet microbiological (well-systems) or chemical water-quality standards
3	Improper pH
4	Presence of inhalation hazards
5	Missing or broken suction outlet covers
6	Missing or broken pool enclosures, including fencing and gates
7	Hazards to pool users
8	Any other violation of these regulations identified by the enforcing agent (e.g., lack of safety equipment)



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Operational Changes

Variation in flow rate:

- Must not fall below **75%** of the rate required by the system. (Example: If your calculated flow rate should be 65 gallons per minute, your water flowing through the pump system shall be at least 75% of 65, which would be approximately 49 gallons per minute.)
Previous code allowed for a flow rate reduction of 65%.

Response to incidents is now required by Code:

- Including fecal, vomit, blood contamination, and near drowning/drowning incidents.
(See page 4). *Previously this procedure was recommendation only.*

Requirements for rescue pole and life rings:

- Mandatory for all pools exceeding 75 feet in length or 50 feet in width to provide a rescue pole and life ring that is available on at least 2 opposing sides of the pool at centralized locations.
Previously only one set of equipment was required.

Additional Record Keeping Requirements

The concentration of free chlorine/bromine and pH levels are still required to be recorded on a daily basis* and cyanuric acid level (if used) on a monthly basis. Records must be maintained for two years. In addition to free chlorine/bromine and pH levels, the following records must be kept.

Daily Records*:

- Heated pools' water temperature
- Equipment readings
- Calibrations
- Corrective actions taken

As Required:

- Combined Chlorine
- Maintenance procedures
- Repairs
- Incident Log for: fecal, vomit, blood contamination, near drowning, or drowning incidents

**Record Keeping Exemption: Complexes with fewer than 25 units may record required information at least 2 times per week with no more than 4 days between readings. California Health & Safety Code §116048*

Pools With Lifeguards

Required Safety Equipment:

- A Red Cross 10-Person Industrial First Aid Kit or equivalent
- An operating telephone
- A backboard and head immobilizer

Lifeguard Health: Reporting Requirement

If two or more lifeguards or pool users at a public pool report within 5 days of each other to the pool operator that they have had diarrhea, the pool operator shall report this to the enforcing agent.



DEFINITIONS



- (a) **"Ancillary Facility"** means any area used in conjunction with or for the operation of a public pool, including, but not limited to, public dressing rooms, lockers, shower or bathroom areas, drinking fountains, equipment rooms, pool deck areas, pool enclosures, or building spaces, that is intended to be used by pool users.
- (b) **"Clean Pool Water"** means public pool water maintained free of dirt, oils, scum, algae, floating debris, or visible organic and inorganic materials that would pollute the water.
- (c) **"Communicable Disease"** means an illness caused by an infectious agent or its toxins that occurs through the direct or indirect transmission of the infectious agent or its products from an infected individual or via an animal, vector, or the inanimate environment to a susceptible animal or human host.
- (d) **"Clear Pool Water"** means public pool water that is free from cloudiness and is transparent.
- (e) **"Enforcing Agent"** means the local health officer, director of environmental health, registered environmental health specialist, environmental health specialist trainee, or an inspector of the State Department of Public Health.
- (f) **"Pool Operator"** means the pool owner or a person the pool owner delegates to conduct public pool operation and maintenance. The public pool owner may delegate pool operator responsibilities to another person, but the pool owner shall retain responsibility for ensuring compliance with these regulations.
- (g) **"Pool User"** means a person using a public pool or ancillary facilities for the purpose of participating in or watching pool users engaged in water activities such as diving, swimming, or wading.
- (h) **"Public Pool"** means any public swimming pool, public bathhouse, public swimming place, and public bathing place that is or includes an artificial basin, chamber, or tank constructed or prefabricated with impermeable surfaces and such pools, bathhouses, and places are used or intended to be used for public swimming, diving, or recreational water activities. "Public Pool" does not include individual therapeutic tubs or baths where the main purpose is cleaning of the body.
- (i) **"Public Pool Sites"** means all public pools, ancillary facilities, and water treatment systems at the public pool premises.
- (j) **"Recirculation System"** means the system of hydraulic components designed to remove, filter, disinfect, and return water to the public pool.
- (k) **"Spa"** means a public pool that incorporates a water jet system, an aeration system, or a combination of the two systems used in conjunction with heated water.
- (l) **"Special Purpose Pool"** means a public pool constructed exclusively for a specific purpose, such as instruction, diving, or medical treatment.
- (m) **"Splash Zone"** means the maximum distance the water from a spray ground can project horizontally.
- (n) **"Spray Ground"** means a public pool with no standing water in the splash zone and consists of a surge basin with a recirculation system from which water is directed through water features for contact with pool users.
- (o) **"Surge Basin"** means a reservoir or surge trench open to the atmosphere that receives water via gravity flow from the main drain, spray ground, or perimeter overflow system and from which the recirculation system operates.
- (p) **"Wading Pool"** means a public pool intended to be used for wading by small children and having a maximum water depth of 18 inches (457 mm) at the deepest point.
- (q) **"Water Feature"** means an interactive device or structure such as a water fountain, water spray, dancing water jet, waterfall, dumping bucket, or shooting water cannon through which water is directed at the pool user.
- (r) **"Water Treatment System"** means all materials and equipment related to disinfection, water quality, recirculation, and filtration.



INCIDENT RESPONSE PROCEDURES

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Fecal, Vomit, Blood Contamination, and Near-Drowning or Drowning

(a) In responding to a fecal, vomit, blood contamination, near-drowning or drowning incident, the pool operator shall perform the following disinfection procedures:

1. After a fecal, vomit, blood contamination, near-drowning, or drowning incident, the pool operator shall immediately close the affected public pool to pool users. If the public pool is one of multiple public pools that use the same filtration system, then all interconnected public pools shall be closed to pool users. No one shall be allowed to enter the public pool(s) until the disinfection procedures have been completed.
2. The pool operator shall remove contaminating material and discharge the contaminating material directly to the sanitary sewer or other approved wastewater-disposal process in accordance with State or local requirements. The pool operator shall clean and disinfect the item used to remove the contaminating material.
3. The pool operator shall ensure that the pH of the public pool water is at 7.5 or lower.
4. The pool operator shall measure and maintain the public pool water temperature at 77°F (25°C) or higher.
5. The pool operator shall ensure that the filtration system is operating while the public pool reaches and maintains the required free-chlorine concentration during the disinfection process.
6. The pool operator shall disinfect the public pool water as follows:
 - (A) If the contaminating material is a formed fecal stool or vomit, the pool operator shall maintain the free-chlorine concentration in the pool at 2 ppm for at least 25 minutes.
 - (B) If the fecal material is a diarrheal stool, the pool operator shall raise the free-chlorine concentration in the pool to 20 ppm and maintain that concentration for at least 12.75 hours. If that public pool water contains a chlorine stabilizer such as cyanuric acid, the pool operator shall lower the pH to 6.5 and raise the free-chlorine concentration in the public pool to 40 ppm and maintain that concentration for at least 30 hours.
 - (C) If the contaminating material is blood, the pool operator shall check the free-chlorine concentration in the public pool at the time of the incident. If it is below the required minimum free-chlorine concentration, the pool operator shall immediately close the public pool until the required minimum free-chlorine concentration is achieved.
7. The pool operator shall test the free-chlorine residual at multiple points to ensure the required free-chlorine concentration is achieved throughout the public pool water for the entire disinfection time.
8. The pool operator shall replace any affected cartridge filters and shall backwash non-cartridge filters after the disinfection process has been completed. The pool operator shall ensure the effluent is discharged directly to the sanitary sewer or other approved wastewater-disposal process in accordance with State or local requirements. The pool operator shall not return the filter backwash water to the pool. The pool operator shall replace the filter media if necessary.
9. The pool operator shall not allow pool users back into the public pool until the disinfection process has been completed and the free-chlorine concentration and pH of the public pool water have returned to normal operating ranges in accordance with sections 65529 and 65530.

(b) The pool operator shall immediately document each fecal, vomit, blood contamination, drowning, or near-drowning incident and maintain records in accordance with section 65523 as follows:

1. The date and time of the incident, the affected pool, the available free-chlorine concentrations, pool temperature and pH at the time of the incident, and facts known about the circumstances and cause of the incident. This information shall also be documented after the pool operator has completed the disinfection process and again when reopening the pool to pool users.
2. Whether the fecal stool was formed or diarrheal.
3. The procedures followed in responding to the contamination incident.
4. The number of pool users in the public pool and the length of time between the occurrence, detection, and resolution of the incident.