

In The Swim

Clark County Public Health, Recreational Water Program
2015 Pool Season

Information for Commercial Pool Operators and Owners



Become a Certified Pool Operator!

The National Swimming Pool Foundation offers a Certified Pool Operator training course. The CPO course gives participants a better understanding of the operator's role in pool care, management and risk reduction. Visit www.nspf.org for local course schedules.

Key Points to Remember

- Clark County Public Health currently offers a discount for facilities who employ a CPO with a valid certification.
- Your certification must be valid at the time of application to qualify for the discount each permit year.
- You must submit your valid CPO number at the time of application.
- The CPO must be employed at the facility with each permit renewal cycle for the discount on your permit.
- Certification last five years.

Highlight: Recreational water illness and diapers

Recreational water illness are illnesses that occur due to exposure to germs and chemicals in the water we swim in. This includes both treated water and natural recreational water locations. Many recreational water illnesses are associated with fecal contamination from ill swimmers.



Information from The Center for Disease Control and Prevention at <http://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/swimming/protection/swim-diapers-swim-pants.html>

Swim diapers and swim pants

According to the CDC, swim diapers and swim pants may give a false sense of security to parents and facility owners. While they may hold solid feces, they are not leak proof. Recreational water illnesses such as Cryptosporidium may still leak into the water.

Protect your facility users by taking these simple steps to reduce recreational water illness

- Provide a diaper changing station in the closest restroom.
- Have your Pool Rules signs indicate the nearest bathroom with a diaper changing station.
- Promote frequent bathroom breaks.
- Have clearly stated policies about not swimming when ill with diarrhea and the use of swim diapers and pants.

Some of these are suggestions, some are Washington state code requirements

For more information on Washington code requirements, visit <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=246-260>

Highlight: Do your barriers keep your facility secure?

Since June 1, 2008, all facilities were required to have their barriers meet Washington Administrative Code requirements. These code requirements are established to prevent unauthorized access into your facility. Barrier requirements are different for limited use and general use pools. However, the following are true for all non-lifeguarded facilities.

- Barriers, including windows, must not allow the passage of a 4 inch sphere
- Fence meshing should not be wider than 1.25 inches to prevent climbing
- Barriers should be at least 60 inches high
- Barriers gates must be self closing and self latching
- Barriers should have handle heights of 60 inches or keyed entry



CLARK COUNTY Public Health

Always working for a safer and healthier community



Is your seasonal pool ready for summer?

Barrier checklist

- Are there any gaps that a 4-inch sphere could fit through?
- Do all the gates self-close and self-latch?
- Does your fence mesh exceed 1.25 inches?
- Are there any other risks to unauthorized access?
- Are the handles for each entrance at 60 inches or secured with a keyed entry?

Pool deck checklist

- Are there any trip hazards on the deck?
- Is the deck furniture organized to allow room for emergencies?
- Are your signs readable, filled in, and current for your facility's rules?
- Are the handrails secured?
- Are there any rough or abrasive areas that need to be addressed?

Emergency equipment

- Does your emergency phone dial out?
- Pool: is your double crook hook on a 12-foot solid pole and is your life ring attached to a rope?
- Spa: does your emergency shut off make an audible sound and turn off both the main drain and jet pumps?

Your recreational water team!

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Don't be surprised by a Saturday inspection!



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

P.O. Box 9825
Vancouver, WA 98666
<http://www.clark.wa.gov/public-health/pools/pools.html>



For other formats, contact the Clark County ADA Office: **Voice** (360) 397-2322;
Relay 711 or (800) 833-6388; **Fax** (360) 397-6165; **E-mail** ADA@clark.wa.gov.



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