

April 2008

Dear Swimming Pool Operator:

Wisconsin's new Pool Code – HFS 172 – Safety, Operation and Maintenance of Public Pool and Water Attractions was updated February 2008. Below are some of the most notable changes.

- Chemical feeder pumps must be electrically connected to the recirculation pump's control circuit and must have a separate disconnect switch.

*Option 1: Have electrician wire an outlet and switch to the circulation pump switch. This will turn off the chemical feeder(s) when the pumps are turned off.*

*Option 2: Install a pressure switch on the circulation lines that the chemical feeder(s) plug into. This will disconnect power to the feeder(s) anytime the circulation pumps are not running. This is the preferred method because the feeder(s) will turn off even if there is still power to the pump (lost prime, motor overheat, etc.).*

- Test kits must provide for direct measurement of free and combined chlorine from 0 to 10 ppm in increments of 0.2 ppm and for total bromine from 0 to 20 ppm in increments of 0.2 ppm.
- Whirlpools using bromine shall be at least 7.0 ppm. Refer to the DHFS Minimum Disinfectant Residuals handout for a complete list of disinfectant levels for all pool types.
- The maximum free chlorine residual may not exceed 10 ppm in any pool and the maximum total bromine in a pool may not exceed 20 ppm.
- The maximum cyanuric acid stabilizer concentration is 30 ppm.

*Most test kits start reading cyanuric acid at 20-30 ppm. Once you get a reading, stop adding cyanuric acid to the pool. It is not recommended to use a disinfectant with cyanuric acid in it on indoor pools (Trichlor, Dichlor, etc.)*

- The acceptable range for total alkalinity is 60 to 180 ppm.

*The acceptable range was increased, but for the health of your pool structure and equipment, comfort of swimmers, and accuracy of ORP based controllers it is very important to maintain the ideal range of 80 to 120 ppm.*

- Combined chlorine levels may not exceed 0.5 ppm in outdoor pools and 0.8 ppm in indoor pools.
- When oxidation potential controllers are used, the water potential shall be kept between 650-850 mV.
- Starting January 1, 2009, each **Water Attraction** shall have at least one certified water attraction operator.

- Every five years, an engineer must evaluate your waterslides the structural stability and integrity of waterslides and platforms.
- Public pool and/or water attraction operators shall report death, injury and/or illness incidents requiring emergency medical personnel to Public Health – Madison and Dane County by the end of the next working day.
- In responding to a fecal accident, the operator shall follow the guidelines titled Fecal Accident Response Recommendations for Pool Staff. This document shall be kept onsite. The operator shall document each fecal contamination as follows:
  1. The date and time of the event and the free available chlorine and pH level at the time of the event and after the event, before reopening the pool to the public.
  2. Whether the stool is formed or loose.
  3. The procedures followed in responding to the fecal contamination.
  4. The number of patrons in the pool and the length of time between the occurrence, detection, and resolution of the incident.

#### Pool Rule Sign Additions

- Diaper changing on the pool deck is prohibited.
- Glass and shatterable items are prohibited in the pool area.
- If non-toilet-trained children are permitted in the pool, the children shall be required to wear swim diapers.
- A pool that is 200 square feet in area or greater that does not have an approved diving well configuration shall have “NO DIVING” signs at least 4-inch high letters.

#### Whirlpool Pool Rule Sign Additions

- Minors under the age of 6 are not permitted in the whirlpool.
- Minors under the age of 12 who are unsupervised may not use the whirlpool.

And remember, each pool shall be under the supervision of at least one responsible supervisor at all times the pool is in use or is open to the public. The responsible supervisor shall be on the premises or available via a phone number posted by the emergency phone.

Telephones for outdoor and indoor pools shall have a list of emergency numbers and the facility's location shall be attached to or posted near the telephone. Cellular or cordless phones may not be used to comply with this section.

#### **Important Resources available online at**

<http://www.publichealthmdc.com/environmental/licensed/pools.cfm>

- HFS 172 - Safety, Operation and Maintenance of Public Pool and Water Attractions
- Comm 90 - Design and Construction of Public Swimming Pools and Water Attractions
- Fecal Accident Response Recommendations for Pool Staff
- DHFS Minimum Disinfectant Residuals
- DHFS Approved Water Test Kits
- DHFS Accident Report Form
- First Aid Requirements
- Monthly Pool Log
- Responsible Pool Supervisor Form

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact your  
District Sanitarian at 243-0330.