

POOL ENFORCEMENT POLICY

One or more of the situations or conditions listed below shall constitute sufficient reason for the operator or responsible supervisor to close a public swimming pool or for the Health Department to order that the swimming pool be closed.

Please carefully read this information sheet and contact your District Sanitarian for any additional information you may need.

1) Pool Closing Criteria (These violations may result in closure of a pool).

- a) Inadequate Disinfection Level
 - i) Swimpools –
 - (1) Free available chlorine level below 1.0 ppm.
 - (2) Bromine residual below 3.0 ppm.
 - ii) Whirlpools –
 - (1) Free available chlorine level below 3.0 ppm.
 - (2) Bromine residual below 5.0 ppm.
- b) Excessive Disinfection Level
 - i) Chlorine - Free available chlorine level above 10.0 ppm.
 - ii) Bromine - Bromine residual above 20.0 ppm.
- c) Extreme variations in pH (Ideal range 7.2 - 7.8).
- d) Equipment breakdown.
- e) Safety hazards:
 - (1) Fences in poor repair
 - (2) Gates not self-closing or latching
 - (3) Shepherd's crook and ring buoy (when applicable) absent
 - (4) Main drain cover not in place or is not clearly visible
 - (5) Telephone not in working order
 - (6) Safety rope not present
- f) Absence of required lifeguard.
- g) Responsible supervisor not designated.

2) Procedure To Close Pool

- (1) A sign stating "Pool Closed" shall be posted at the entrance to the pool area.
- (2) Doors or entrance gates to the pool shall be locked to prohibit swimming. If this is not possible, the pool shall be roped off and signs posted to prohibit swimming.
- (3) A pool that has been closed by the Health Department shall remain closed until the sanitarian approves the reopening of the pool. If a pool is re-opened without Health Department approval, the pool licensee shall be referred to the City Attorney for

prosecution.

3) Procedure to Reopen a Pool Closed by the Health Department

- i) The pool operator shall notify the District Sanitarian between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m. after corrections have been made to request a reinspection. Reinspections shall not be performed on the same day the pool was closed. (Pools closed because of excessive disinfection may reopen without a reinspection once levels fall into acceptable ranges).

4) Pool Closing Due to High Bacterial Counts

- a) Whenever three (3) of the last five (5) samples exceed the HPC (Heterotrophic Plate Count) - 200 per mL or show positive for coliform.
 - (1) A **warning letter** will be sent to the operator when two (2) of the last four (4) samples are unsatisfactory.
 - (2) The sanitarian will hand deliver a **suspension letter** and sample bottles to operator when three (3) of the last five (5) samples exceed microbiological standards.
 - (3) Instructions for re-opening a pool closed due to poor bacterial quality will be provided by the sanitarian at the time of closure.

5) Pool Closing Due to Low Disinfectant Levels

- a) Monthly Visits
 - i) A **warning letter** shall be sent to an operator when two (2) of the last four (4) disinfectant level readings result in pool closures due to low disinfectant levels.
 - ii) When three (3) of the last five (5) disinfectant level readings result in pool closures due to low disinfectant levels a City Attorney referral may occur.

6) Reoccurring Pool Violations

- i) **Repeat Violations.** Operators who are found in continuous violation of the same items may be dealt with by **use of Red Stamp.**
 - (a) Establish a pattern by showing orders for correction of a violation.
 - (b) On the inspection report or re-inspection report showing the violation for the second time, write the following statement:
 - (i) **“This is to inform you that, due to the recurrent violation of (Ex: item #11 Pool Rules Posted, Ledible, Located) that should this/these item(s) be noted in violation on any subsequent reports, it may result in citation, legal prosecution or permit suspension.”**
 - (c) Reoccurrence of **Red Stamped** items may result in City Attorney referral.