



## **Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)**

### **Rules and Regulations for Pools and Spas**

COVID-19 has not been shown to spread by water as long as it is properly chlorinated or brominated; it is spread by respiratory droplets that happen when people exhale, speak, cough, sneeze, spit, etc. Learn how your pool facility can maintain a healthy work environment by adopting the following preventative practices in your facility when it comes time to open.

- Managers shall check-in with staff at the beginning of each shift to ensure worker health and review proper hygienic practices.
- Post signs reminding staff and patrons to stay home while sick.
  - Send employees home if they are showing signs of a respiratory illness, fever, flu-like symptoms and/or abrupt loss of taste and smell senses.
- Frequently wash hands with warm water and soap for at least 20 seconds.
- Make alcohol based hand sanitizer (of at least 60% alcohol) or sanitizing wipes available for patrons and staff.
- Remind staff and patrons to avoid touching their eyes, nose, and mouth. Cover nose and mouth when coughing and sneezing with a tissue, then immediately dispose of the tissue and wash hands for at least 20 seconds.
- Facility managers shall assign a safety manager who is on site during all hours of operation to monitor and enforce social distancing and safety guidelines.
- **Reduce the number of patrons and staff in the pool area to allow for effective social distancing by maintaining 6 feet between deck chairs and 10 feet between tables.**
  - 10 feet between tables ensures for a 6 foot separation between patrons while seated at adjacent tables.
  - We encourage facilities to tape off or use other physical means to visually represent social distancing guidelines.
  - Removing pool furniture may be an effective way to help with social distancing.
- **Reduce bather load** (number of people allowed in the pool at one time) to allow for social distancing in the pool.
  - Lap pools should schedule lanes and times to reduce number of bathers at one time.
  - Allow only one person in each lane at a time.
- **Ensure pool sanitizer chemical levels and water chemistry are maintained at all times and pumps and filters are fully functioning and in good condition.**
  - Chlorine must be kept between 1.0 and 5.0 ppm to remain open. Pool **must** close if chlorine levels are below 1.0 ppm or at 10.0 ppm or higher.
  - Bromine must be kept between 3.0 and 8.0 ppm to remain open. Pool **must** close if bromine levels are below 2.25 ppm or above 22.25 ppm.
  - pH must be kept between 7.2 and 7.8.



**CITY OF NASHUA**  
**Division of Public Health  
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- Restrooms shall be made available to patrons and shall be cleaned and monitored frequently to ensure the soap and towel dispensers/hand drying devices are stocked and/or functional at all times.
  - Incorporate a log for cleaning, monitoring, and stocking restroom facilities.
  - Restroom occupancy should be limited to incorporate social distancing, and waiting lines outside of restrooms should be avoided.
- Frequently clean and sanitize high touch surfaces throughout the facility including door handles, chairs, other pool-side furniture, gate latches, and restroom fixtures.
- If towels or other cloth items are provided to patrons, they must be laundered in-between each patron in accordance with manufacturer's instructions using the warmest appropriate setting for the items and then dried completely before the next use.
- Employees must wear cloth face coverings over their nose and mouth when at work and around others in settings where social distancing is not possible.
  - Cloth face coverings worn by staff should be kept clean in accordance with CDC guidelines.
- Post signage to encourage patrons to wear masks/face coverings in situations out of the pool where social distancing cannot be achieved.
- **Animals (other than service animals) are prohibited.**
- **Smoking and vaping is prohibited.**
  
- **If a facility decides to not open their pools at this time, please use the following guidance.**
  - The pool must be kept covered with a secure cover.
  - Superchlorinate the water to prevent algae and bacterial growth.
  - The pumps/filtration system must be run for no less than 5 hours per day.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please call us at 603-589-4530 or visit our website as guidance may change due to the rapidly changing nature of this event.

Additional resources include:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/parks-rec/park-administrators.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/water.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/building-water-system.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/parks-rec/aquatic-venues.html>