

**WORCESTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
PRE-OPENING GUIDE
RECREATIONAL POOLS**

A. DECKS

1. ____ FENCING MUST BE IN GOOD REPAIR. (.21)
 - A. MINIMUM 6 FT FOR MAIN POOL.
 - B. MINIMUM 3 FT FOR WADING POOL SEPARATION FENCE.
2. ____ DECK AND COPING MUST BE IN GOOD REPAIR AND PROPERLY DRAINED. (.22)
3. ____ EXPANSION JOINTS ARE SEALED. (.22)
4. ____ POOL WALLS AND BOTTOM SMOOTH, LIGHT COLORED AND EASILY CLEANABLE. (.14)
5. ____ SCUM GUTTER FREE FLOWING, WHERE APPLICABLE. (.26)
6. ____ ALL SKIMMERS ADJUSTED AND FUNCTIONAL. (.26 & .28)
7. ____ MAIN DRAIN GRATES (COVERS) SECURELY IN PLACE. (.28)
 - A. AT LEAST TWO HYDRAULICALLY BALANCED DRAIN OUTLETS SPACED A MINIMUM OF 3 FEET FROM EDGE TO EDGE THAT CANNOT BE ISOLATED TO CREATE A SINGLE OUTLET FOR EACH PUMP.
 - B. A CHANNEL DRAIN SYSTEM THAT IS AT LEAST 3 FEET FROM EDGE TO EDGE.
 - C. AN APPROVED INFLUENT BLOCKAGE DETECTION DEVICE.
 - D. SUCTION OUTLET COVERS MUST BE VGB COMPLIANT.
 - E. SUCTION OUTLET COVERS MUST BE FREE OF BREAKS, CRACKS, OR DEFECTS.
 - F. SUCTION OUTLET COVERS MUST BE SECURED WITH SCREWS OR FASTENERS. (NO EPOXY, GLUE, TAPE, ETC.).
8. ____ LIGHTS FUNCTIONAL AND SECURE. (.32)
9. ____ GUARD CHAIRS, LADDERS, DIVING STANDS AND SLIDES SECURE AND IN GOOD CONDITION. (.38) ELEVATED CHAIR REQUIRED IF POOL IS OVER 5 FEET DEEP.
10. ____ LIFE LINE IN PLACE AND SECURE AND A 4" MINIMUM WIDTH ROW OF FLOOR TILE PAINTED LINE OR SIMILAR MEANS OF A COLOR CONTRASTING ON THE BOTTOM. (.13) IF POOL IS OVER 6 FT 4 IN. (.13)
11. ____ DEPTH MARKERS LEGIBLE. (.13) DEPTH OF WATER IN FEET MARKED AT OR ABOVE THE WATER LINE ON THE POOL WALL AND ON TOP OF THE COPING OR EDGE OF THE DECK OR WALK NEXT TO THE POOL. DEPTH MARKERS MUST BE A MINIMUM OF 4" HIGH.
12. ____ WEIRS PRESENT AND FUNCTIONAL. (.26 & .28)
13. ____ DRINKING FOUNTAIN(S) PRESENT AND FUNCTIONAL. (.34)
14. ____ HOSE BIB PRESENT WITH ATMOSPHERIC VACUUM BREAKER. (.34)
15. ____ VACUUM PRESENT AND ADEQUATE. (.26)
16. ____ VACUUM PORT IS CAPPED WITH FLUSH CAP WHEN NOT IN USE. (.28)

17. ____ INDOOR POOL AREA VENTILATION SYSTEM. (.33)
A. FAN DEHUMIDIFYING DEVICE.

B. EQUIPMENT ROOM

1. ____ EQUIPMENT/CHEMICAL ROOM LOCKABLE. (.29)
2. ____ ROOM CLEAN, VENTED AND FLOOR DRAINING PROPERLY. (.23)
A. IF CHEMICALS STORED IN EQUIPMENT ROOM, NEEDS TO HAVE MECHANICAL VENTILATION.
3. ____ LIGHTING ADEQUATE AND SECURE. (.23)
4. ____ HOSE BIB PRESENT WITH ATMOSPHERIC VACUUM BREAKER IN EQUIPMENT ROOM. (.23)
5. ____ OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS POSTED. VALVES AND PIPING PROPERLY LABELED AND/OR TAGGED TO MATCH OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS IN EQUIPMENT ROOM. (.38)
6. ____ ALL PRESSURE AND VACUUM GAUGES FUNCTIONAL. (.25)
7. ____ FLOW METER FUNCTIONAL AND SIZED APPROPRIATELY FOR THE SYSTEM. (.25)
8. ____ POOL DATA SHEET POSTED IN EQUIPMENT ROOM. (.23)
9. ____ DISINFECTANT DELIVERING EQUIPMENT FUNCTIONAL. (.26)
10. ____ AIR GAP ON BACKWASH LINE. (.34)
11. ____ DYE TEST SHOWS SUFFICIENT MIXING OF POOL WATER AND INLETS ADJUSTED PROPERLY.
12. ____ PERMIT POSTED. (.09)
13. ____ FILTERS, PUMPS, HAIR AND LINT STRAINER WORKING PROPERLY. (.25)
14. ____ TEST KITS ARE PRESENT AND ADEQUATE. (.47)
15. ____ MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS FOR POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS (.49)
16. ____ A BONDING WIRE IS CONNECTED TO THE POOL PUMP.

C. BATHHOUSE

1. ____ ALL PLUMBING FIXTURES MUST BE OPERATIONAL. (.35)
2. ____ CLEAN, VENTED AND FLOOR DRAINING PROPERLY. (.35)
3. ____ HOSE BIB PRESENT WITH ATMOSPHERIC VACUUM BREAKER. (.35)
4. ____ LIGHTING ADEQUATE. (.35)
5. ____ PROPER PRESSURE BALANCE ANTI-SCALD UNITS ON SHOWER FIXTURES AND WATER TEMPERATURE DOES NOT EXCEED 115° F. (.36)

D. SAFETY (.40)

1. ____ FIRST AID KIT.
2. ____ TELEPHONE MUST BE AVAILABLE TO INDIVIDUALS USING THE POOL THAT CAN DIRECTLY REACH 911 WITHOUT THE USE OF A COIN AND WITHOUT CONNECTION TO AN INTERNAL SWITCHBOARD. (.40) PHONES MUST BE WITHIN THE POOL ENCLOSURE.
 - A. TELEPHONE MUST BE POSTED WITH 911 AND THE NAME AND LOCATION OF THE FACILITY.
3. ____ BACKBOARD WITH STRAPS (NOT ROPES, WIRES, ETC.).
4. ____ FACE MASK FOR CPR.
5. ____ DISPOSABLE MEDICAL GRADE GLOVES.
6. ____ BLOOD-BORNE PATHOGEN CONTROL KIT.
7. ____ A LIGHT, STRONG RESCUE POLE NOT LESS THAN 10 FEET LONG.
8. ____ RESCUE TUBE DESIGNED FOR LIFESAVING IS REQUIRED FOR EACH LIFEGUARD ON DUTY.
9. ____ LIFEGUARD - 15 YEARS OR OLDER ON DUTY DURING POOL OPERATING HOURS. 1 LIFEGUARD IS PROVIDED FOR EACH GROUP OF 50 INDIVIDUALS.
10. ____ CPR AND FIRST AID CERTIFIED PERSONNEL ON SITE.
11. ____ LIFEGUARD CERTIFICATION ON SITE AND CURRENT.
12. ____ HOUSE RULES. OPERATION HOURS POSTED. (.40)
13. ____ CHEMICAL STORAGE SIGNS – “CAUTION! CHEMICAL STORAGE AREA”
14. ____ ANY OTHER ACTION SIGNS – ”DANGER! NO DIVING IN SHALLOW WATER.”
15. ____ ALL CHEMICAL VILES AND CONTAINERS PROPERLY LABELED WITH CONTENTS.

E. CERTIFIED POOL OPERATOR

1. ____ CPO MUST BE ON PROPERTY AT ALL TIMES DURING OPERATION OF THE POOL. (.43)
2. ____ CPO RECORDS OR SUPERVISES THE RECORDING OF ALL INFORMATION REQUIRED ON POOL RECORD SHEETS EVERY TWO HOURS. (.46)
3. ____ CPO SIGNS/DATES ALL RECORD SHEETS. (.46)
4. ____ CPO FILLS OUT HAZARD ENTRAPMENT CHECKLIST DAILY AND INITIALS. (.28)

F. WATER CHEMISTRY AND DISINFECTANT LEVELS

1. ____ POOL - FREE CHLORINE BETWEEN 1.5ppm AND 10ppm. (.44)
2. ____ SPA - CHLORINE BETWEEN 4.0ppm AND 10.0ppm. (.44)
3. ____ WADING POOL - CHLORINE BETWEEN 3.0ppm AND 10.0ppm. (.44)
4. ____ POOL – BROMINE BETWEEN 3.0ppm AND 8.0ppm. (.44)
5. ____ SPA - BROMINE BETWEEN 4.0ppm AND 8.0ppm. (.44)
6. ____ WADING POOL – BROMINE BETWEEN 4.0ppm AND 8.0ppm. (.44)
7. ____ pH MAINTAIN BETWEEN 7.2 AND 7.8. (.45)
8. ____ TOTAL ALKALINITY BETWEEN 60ppm AND 180ppm. (.45)
9. ____ CALCIUM HARDNESS BETWEEN 150ppm AND 400ppm. (.45)
10. ____ POOL WATER TEMPERATURE FOR INDOOR POOL MAXIMUM 88°F. (.45)
11. ____ SPA WATER TEMPERATURE MAXIMUM 104°F. (.45)

Major Compliance Items

All swimming pools must be in compliance with the following regulations prior to the renewal of an operating permit:

COMAR 10.17.01 Public Swimming Pools and Spas

- .05B(22) Pool Bars must have a sign stating "Pool use is limited to hotel guests only" or provide documentation indicating their plan to limit use to hotel/motel patrons
- .21 Semi public pool enclosure (door) entrance gate must be self-closing and self-latching
- .21 The pool barrier is in good repair
- .22 Pool deck condition (severe tripping hazard)
- .23B A pool data sheet is posted
- .25 Flow meter is functioning and the minimum flow rate is being achieved
- .25 An influent and effluent gauge installed (psi) and a vacuum gauge installed (hg) or a compound vacuum gauge (psi)
- .25 A working thermometer located on the return pipe or pool heater (if heater is used)
- .28 Must comply with .28 of COMAR
- .28A Cover on vacuum port (if working vacuum)
- .29 Filter room door locked and working ventilation system with makeup air
- .29 A "Caution Chemical Storage Area" sign located on all entrance doors for said area
- .32B If open after 8:00 p.m., illumination must comply with .32 of COMAR
- .33 Indoor Pools - Ventilation
- .34 Air gap for backwash line and fillspout
- .34 Drinking fountain
- .34E Fillspout located near ladder or painted a contrasting color
- .38C All valves and piping properly labeled (example: main drains and skimmers)
- .39 No return covers are cracked, broken or missing
- .40 Person trained in CPR and First Aid, Lifeguard/CPO on site for a recreational pool (MUST HAVE ALL CERTIFICATION ON SITE)
- .40 Safety Signs Present (No Lifeguard, No Diving)
- .40A Safety equipment present
- .40A First Aid Equipment (Recreational Pool, Public Spa)
- .40B Functional telephone for 911 and signs
- .40C Elevated lifeguard chair (Recreational Pool over 5 feet deep)
- .40D.6 A semi-public pool over 2500 sq. ft. is provided with a lifeguard.
- .40E Public spa person trained in CPR and First Aid on-site, "No Lifeguard on Duty" sign for semi public spa.
- .40F Pool operation hours are posted within the pool enclosure
- .41 & .43 CPO
- .44 Automatic disinfection
- .44.1 & .44.2 Chlorine level
- .44.3 Bromine level
- .45A.1 pH level
- .45A.7 Clarity
- .46 Records kept in compliance with COMAR/Entrapment Hazard Checklist Compliance
- .47 Test kit (on site or with CPO)
A bonding wire is attached to the pool pump. (ANSI 13.1)

Any other violation of COMAR that the inspector deems to create a substantial risk (i.e. – loose coping Stones, broken ladder, etc.