

BCDH Guidelines for Outdoor Pool Operations 2020

General Operations

Review and consult the CDC guidance for aquatic venues for detailed information. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/parks-rec/aquatic-venues.html>

Monitor the Pennsylvania website for state guidance to come.

Consider one way traffic entrance and exits to reduce crowding.

Consider working in assigned teams, stagger breaks.

Non-lifesaving staff should be masked.

Signage

A prominent sign should be displayed by the pool complex entrance. At a minimum, this signage should state that no one with the following symptoms should enter the pool during this pandemic: cough, fever over 100, rash, loss of sense of smell and or taste, stomach distress, or body aches. If you have any of these symptoms please contact your healthcare provider and do not enter the pool area.

Aquatic Facilities Setup and Operation

Pools must maintain social distancing between bathing families. The minimum distance required is six (6) feet on all sides. These areas should be laid out in advance and visually or physically cued for easy patron identification. Patrons should not make adjustments to their assigned area.

When laying out socially distanced family areas, thought should be given for walking isles to access the pool, restrooms/changing rooms or other complex venues or features without encroaching on other family areas.

The area around the pool perimeter edge is to remain clear for easy bather and lifeguard access to the water.

Occupancy in all cases will be limited to the number of family spaces that are able to be delineated. A counter or other means should be used to determine when the pool reaches safe capacity. Consider limiting the number of hours per family to allow for other guests to enter.

Hand sanitizing/hand washing stations should be set up for ease of access to the bathers and in sufficient quantity so lines do not form.

Visual or physical distancing features, (tape) should be setup at all water slides or diving boards.

Occupancy of changing rooms and bathrooms must be limited to maintain social distancing. Monitoring will be required, and must be enforced.

Bathrooms and changing rooms must be disinfected frequently during the pool operational hours and again before reopening for the next day.

Visual or physical social distancing features must be setup at snack bars. All food service operators are to be masked and six (6) feet should separate the food server from the customer. Physical shielding should be at the registers to protect the food workers. Families may bring chairs for their group, they then take when they leave. The facility should not have any indoor seating and if providing outdoor seating and tables, they must be within a family group area and must be disinfected after every use.

Lifeguards are only to focus on their duty, they cannot be assigned any other task. All employees used as monitors or administrative workers or cleaning staff must be masked and if taking temperatures, gloved.

Under no conditions can pool parties, swim meets or any other type of event take place at a pool, if they would not operate under all conditions of this guidance.

Each facility's Operation and Maintenance Plan and Routine Maintenance Plan must be carefully followed. **Proper disinfection levels must be continuously maintained, keep a free chlorine level of 5-8 ppm and check every hour. The pool(s) must immediately close if disinfection is below CDC guideline of 2 ppm for a stabilized pool and 1 ppm for a non-stabilized pool.**