

California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health Recreational Health Committee

CLOSURE GUIDELINES

AUTHORITY:

California Code of Regulations (Title 22)

65545. Public Pool Closure

(a) A public pool that is maintained or operated in a manner that creates an unhealthful, unsafe, or unsanitary condition may be closed by the enforcing agent. Unhealthful, unsafe, or unsanitary conditions include, but are not limited to, failure to maintain clean pool water and clear pool water requirements; inadequate disinfection; improper pH; the presence of inhalation hazards; failure to meet microbiological or chemical water-quality standards; missing or broken suction outlet covers; missing or broken pool enclosures, including fencing and gates; hazards to pool users; and any other violation of these regulations identified by the enforcing agent. A public pool shall not be reopened until the unhealthful, unsafe, or unsanitary condition has been rectified and upon specific written approval from the enforcing agent.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 116035, 116050 and 131200, Health and Safety Code. Reference: Sections 116040, 116043, 116050, 116053, 116055, 116060 and 116063, Health and Safety Code.

PURPOSE: To establish general public swimming pool closure guidelines such that consistent enforcement throughout the State can be achieved.

The following are examples of critical violations that, if not corrected during an inspection, would result in the closure of a public swimming pool.

DISINFECTANT

- No residual disinfectant is detected.
- Residual disinfectant concentration is less than the required minimum AND the cyanuric acid concentration is greater than 100 ppm.
- The chlorine concentration is greater than 10 ppm, no maximum set for Bromine.
Note: MAHC maximum for Bromine is 8.0 ppm.
- Ultraviolet light is less than 40mJ/cm² in a spray ground recirculation system.

Note: If the disinfectant concentration is less than the minimum required, a follow up inspection should be conducted within 48 hours.

pH

- The pH is at or below 7.0.
- The pH is at or above 8.0.

CYANURIC ACID

- Residual disinfectant concentration is less than the required minimum AND the cyanuric acid concentration is greater than 100 ppm.

TEMPERATURE

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- The spa water temperature is greater than 104°F (+/-2°F).

CLARITY

- The main drain at the bottom of the pool is not visible when viewed from the deck, due to cloudiness or algae growth.

ANTI-ENTRAPMENT

- A suction outlet (filtration or booster recirculation) cover is missing, broken, cracked or loose.
- A SVRS is required but not present or operable.
- The pool is not compliant with anti-entrapment requirements such as having unapproved covers installed.

WATER QUALITY

- Improper response to fecal, vomit, blood, or drowning incidents.
- The use of non-potable water is used to fill the pool.
- Two consecutive bacteriological analyses not meeting Section 65531 of Title 22.

SAFETY/RESCUE EQUIPMENT

- No rescue equipment available for use.
- Spa emergency shut off switch is not fully functional.

ENCLOSURE

- Pool enclosure is not secure (anything less than the approved enclosure).
- Gate is not self-closing and self-latching.

RECIRCULATION

- Recirculation is not operating during hours of operation.

POOL LIGHT

- Light fixture has a gap greater than ½" (Entrapment and electrical hazard).
- Pool light is cracked/broken or unsecured.
- Light fixture has water in it.

OTHER

- Any electrical hazard.
- Sharp objects, glass, or other physical hazard that creates an unsafe condition in pool or in pool enclosure area. Any unhealthful, unsafe or unsanitary conditions.
- The pool is constructed without the submittal of plans.
- The pool is modified without the submittal of plans and the modification creates a public safety hazard.