



BOARD OF HEALTH

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SWIMMING POOL CLOSURE POLICY

Per State Sanitary Code 105 CMR 435.08(4) and 435.34: **CLOSURE OF POOLS**, if at any time the public or semi-public swimming, wading or spa pool does not conform to the requirements set forth in 105 CMR 435.08, and 435.28 to 435.31, the Pool Supervisor or Lifeguard in charge must **IMMEDIATELY** close the pool until it does conform to the standards. Closing the pool means ensuring that all patrons leave the pool water!

The standards for closure noted in 435.08 and 435.28 to 435.31 include:

- , Fecal, blood or vomit incident (refer to DPH policy for corrective action)
- , Loose, missing or broken main drain cover or main drain cover that can be removed without the use of tools
- , Poor bacteriological quality (>200 bacteria/ml and + coliform or pseudomonas)
- , Unbalanced water chemistry (standards: 1 -3 ppm chlorine, 7.2 - 7.8 pH, 50 - 150 ppm alkalinity, 0 - .2 ppm combined chlorine & 200-300 ppm calcium hardness). **Pools should be immediately closed if chlorine is < .6 ppm or > 5 ppm and if pH is <7.0 or > 8.0, or if corrective measures can not be taken immediately to bring levels into compliance.** Plan to reach breakpoint chlorination (shock/superchlorinate) at the end of the day if the combined chlorine is .2 or greater.
- , Missing or incomplete test kit, or reagents older than one year
- , Poor water clarity (can you see the pool bottom or main drain covers???)

*****Note that if the Pool Supervisor or Lifeguard closes the pool and removes the patrons from the pool, the Pool Supervisor or Lifeguard may reopen the pool when compliance is achieved. If the Board of Health arrives and observes people in the pool, you have not closed the pool.**

Of critical importance is that the pool log reflect the closure, the reasons for it, the actions taken to remedy it, the time when the pool was closed, the time when the pool was reopened and the chemical levels when the pool was reopened.

If the Board of Health closes your pool, only the Board of Health may reopen your pool!!!