

# Synopsis of Rules for Pools, Spas, and Special-Use Pools

3701-31-04(D)(6)	Pools	Spas
Free Chlorine	1.0 ppm	2.0 ppm
Combined Cl	1.0 ppm	1.0 ppm
Bromine	2.0 ppm	4.0 ppm
pH	7.2 - 7.8	7.2 - 7.8
Alkalinity	60 ppm	60 ppm
Cyanuric Acid	70 ppm max	70 ppm max
Temperature	90°F	104°F
TDS	No max limit	No max limit
Clarity	Bottom visible	Bottom visible
ORP	650 mV	650 mV

## Testing:

- DPD test kit must be used. (04)(D)(8)(a)
- DPD-FAS test kit may be required. (04)(D)(8)(b)
- All pools - pH and disinfectant must be tested manually *at the pool deck* prior to bather entry. (04)(B)(4)(a)
- Pools with an auto controller: Record controller readings 12 hours later if still operating. (04)((B)(4)(a)
- Pools without an auto controller: Record every 4 hours during hours of operation. (04)(B)(4)(a)
- Special-use pools and spray grounds—At least one special feature must be tested at the beginning of the day and every 6 hours afterward (04)(B)(4)(a)
- Temperature must be documented daily (04)(B)(4)(a)
- Alkalinity and cyanuric acid (if used) must be tested weekly. (04)(B)(4)(a)
- Records must be retained for a minimum of 2 years, incl. auto controller and SVRS maintenance. (04)(B)(5)

## Signage on Deck

- Depth markers—4” minimum size, depth in numerals and units in letters. Markers must be at the minimum depth, maximum depth, breakpoints, and less than 25 feet apart. Markers must be within 2 feet of the water or 6” of the gutter. A minimum of 2 markers must be present for spas and wading pools.
- “NO DIVING” signs must be adjacent to depth markers in shallow water; not required for spas or wading pools.
- “WARNING NO LIFEGUARD” sign must be posted if guards are not required. **Also, pools where guards are not required must post a sign stating “Swimming alone is not recommended” and “Children must be supervised”.**
- Phone location sign if the phone is not visible. Emergency numbers/dialing instructions must be posted (i.e.: 911).
- “DANGER” or “WARNING, POOL (or spa) CLOSED” sign available.
- Spa caution sign by entrance of spa.
- Slide and special feature sign(s) posted per manufacturer.

## Diving Boards - Recreational

- Must be maintained in good repair (04)(B)(6)(aa)
- Meets design standard, fulcrum locked forward, foot adjusting wheel removed. (04)(B)(6)
- Separation—10’ between boards and side of pool (1 meter board), 11’ to side for 3 meter board.
- No recreational diving boards or platforms greater than 3 meters.
- Diving boards installed after April 1, 2011 must meet specified competitive standards in (05.1)(K)(1)

## Safety on the Deck

- Telephone available within 500 feet of the pool. (04)(E)(2)
- First aid kit with disposable gloves. (04)(E)(2)
- Rescue tubes and CPR pocket masks for lifeguards. (04)(E)(4)
- USCG Type IV floatation with a minimum 1/4” line 30 ft. to 60 ft. long. (04)(E)(2)
- Pools have a non-telescopic reach pole with shepherd’s crook. Wading pools, spas, spray grounds are exempt. (04)(E)(2)
- All safety equipment must be available and visible. (04)(E)(2)
- Spine board available. For pools with lifeguards, the board must have straps and a head immobilizer. (04)(E)(2)
- Safety line with floats for pools > 5 feet deep and change in slope. Not required at pools with no break in slope change. Line may be temporarily removed for activities. (04)(E)(2).
- Main drain cover must be secure.
- Starting blocks inaccessible to general public.

## Barriers/Fencing

- Constructed prior to 1991, 42” high, <6” openings. Self-closing lockable gate.
- Constructed/renovated after January 1991, 48” high, 4” openings & self-closing/self-latching lockable gate.
- Wading pools constructed/renovated after January 1991 must have 36” high fence with self-closing/self-latching gate.
- Sections of barrier may be repaired, but additions, substantial alterations, or replacements must comply with (05.1)(O)

Number of Lifeguards Required			
3701-31-04(E)	Pool or Spa Surface Area		
Number of Bathers	1-1999	2000-3999	4000-5999
1-50	0	1	1
51-150	1	2	2
151 or more	<b>Exceeds limit</b>	2	3

For pools with  $\geq 6000 \text{ ft}^2$  surface area, the operator needs to create a written plan for lifeguarding:

- Sketch of pool w/dimensions
- Locations of guard stations and special features
- Designation of each guard's scanning area

Additional sketches as needed as usage is changed or pool is renovated

**The written plan created by the operator must be based on the following criteria:** • All areas of the pool are in direct line of sight at all times • All area are reachable by guards in 20 sec. • Each guard is able to scan their area in 20 sec. • Safety of bathers can be effectively controlled.

#### Lifeguards

- Capable swimmer • Not engaged in coaching • Prepared to enter water • Positioned with view of the pool bottom • CPR mask available • Rescue tube on person • Similarly attired/readily identifiable • Certified by an approved agency • Certified in CPR • Certified in first aid
- Lifeguards must be present for any slide > 10' high • Have rapid access to landing area • Be part of a dispatch procedure for slides • Be present where there is a diving board • Be able to observe a zero entry pool • Have elevated chairs as necessary.

#### Virginia Graeme Baker Act Compliance (04)(B)(6), (05.1)(F)(10 & 11)

- Approved cover(s) on ALL suction outlet fittings that are completely submerged, including skimmer equalizer lines
- **ALL pools/spas with a single main drain other than an unblockable drain\*** must also be equipped with one of the following:
  - Safety vacuum release system (i.e.: Vac-Alert, Stingl Switch, Hayward Stratum VRS). **Must be tested/documented monthly**
  - Gravity Drainage System
  - Automatic pump shut-off system
- A second main drain (at least 3 feet apart) may also be installed.

\*unblockable drains, according to the CPSC, may include a large aspect cover (at least 18" X 23"), long channels that cannot be blocked by the body, or large outlet grates (at least a 29" diagonal measurement).

#### Pump Room

- Flowmeter, or a means of determining flow on all water pumps (04)(B)(6)(i)
- Automatic controller required on spas; must control and display pH & disinfectant, have an alarm, and be interlocked w/a flow switch. **Flow switch must be tested & documented monthly.** (04)(D)(7)(a)
- Automatic disinfectant feeder (04)(D)(2)
- Meters and gauges maintained and functional at all times (04)(B)(6)(h)
- Chemicals properly stored (04)(B)(6)(y)
- Equipment, chemical, and other storage areas inaccessible to bathers and free of hazards (04)(B)(6)(t)

#### Spray Grounds (constructed prior to April 1, 2011)

The following rules apply to all spray grounds regardless of construction date: • No dead spots in mixing holding tank • Tank must be drained & cleaned every 120 days • No excessive accumulation of vegetation or debris on pad • 2.0 ppm Cl or 4.0 ppm Br residual at the spray nozzle • Disinfection, pH, and combined chlorine tested prior to bather usage and every 6 hours afterward • Alkalinity & Cyanuric acid (if applicable) tested weekly • Illness prevention signage posted per (05.1)(Y)(9)

#### Spray Grounds constructed or renovated after April 1, 2011 (05.1)(Y)

30 minute turnover rate (05.1)(F)(1)(d)(i)

**Dependent spray grounds**—water supplied from a licensed pool • discharge water returned to the circulation system • holding tank, if used, cannot receive discharge water from spray pad (05.1)(Y)(2)

**Independent spray grounds**—One mixing holding tank to treat discharge water from pad and supply features • trash trap installed between spray pad and mixing holding tank • access panel installed on mixing holding tank • drain on bottom of tank (05.1)(Y)(3)

**Other requirements**—Separate circulation and special-features systems • automatic chemical controller installed • spray pad slip resistant and free of obstructions