



Cowlitz County Health & Human Services

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Board of County Commissioners

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Pre-Opening Checklist for Seasonal Pools and Spa

BARRIERS

- Fences intact and in good repair (sixty inches tall for limited use, seventy-two inches tall, general use). Be sure to also check for items that may effectively reduce the barrier height, such as tree limbs, and benches or tables next to the fence.
- Self-closing and self-latching gates that provide either a self-locking latch or the latch is at least sixty inches from the ground. Self-locking latches lower than 60 inches shall have an eighteen inch radius of solid material around the latch.
- Gates/doors are lockable for periods of non-use (closing for night/adding chemicals).

WALKING SURFACES

- Surfaces clean and in good repair.
- Proper drainage, no pooling water.
- Deck in good condition, no trip hazards (anything over one-half inch is considered a trip hazard).
- Lighting minimum of 10 foot candles if operating after dusk.

EMERGENCY & SAFETY EQUIPMENT

- Phone provided and operable (make a test call).
- Throw-rope bag or throwing ring with attached rope in plain view and easily accessible. Rope must be the width of the widest part of the pool in length.
- Reaching pole at least 12 feet long with shepherd hook in plain view and easily accessible.
- 16 unit First Aid Kit. See [CCHHS website](http://www.cchhs.org) for required elements.
- One designated emergency blanket

- Spa emergency shut off switch and alarm working and audible.
- Pool main drain shut off switch and alarm working and audible if applicable.
- SVRS tested and working if applicable.

WATER QUALITY

- New test kit chemicals/reagents
- pH 7.2-7.8
- Proper disinfectant levels

Pool

Disinfectant	Minimum (ppm)	Maximum (ppm)
Chlorine	1.5	10.0
Stabilized Chlorine	2.0	10.0
Bromine	2.5	10.0

Spa & Wading Pool

Disinfectant	Minimum (ppm)	Maximum (ppm)
Chlorine	3.0	10.0
Stabilized Chlorine	3.5	10.0
Bromine	4.0	10.0

- Water clarity good (main drain easily seen)
- Spa temperature does not exceed 104°F
- Cyanuric acid between 30-50ppm if using stabilized chlorine. Must be 90ppm or less.
- Total alkalinity between 80-120ppm is ideal

PHYSICAL COMPONENTS

- Main drains in good condition (no cracks or pieces missing) and properly secured.
- Weirs gates installed in skimmers.
- Handrails secure.
- Diving boards, slides and other apparatuses secured and in good repair.
- Stair edge contrasting color in place and visible.
- Depth marking on deck and side walls visible and of dark contrasting color.
- Smooth sides, no rough edges, no protrusions.
- Float or marking line at breakpoint/drop-off.
- Pool & spa surfaces clean.
- Skimmer baskets are clean, in good repair and in place.

SIGNAGE & NOTIFICATION

- Rules up to date, posted and easily seen.
- Location of emergency phone & first aid kit listed.
- Annual age limitation rule notification conducted for limited use patrons.

EQUIPMENT & EQUIPMENT ROOM

- Locked
- Pumps and filters working and in good repair.
- Flow meter installed and working.
- Chemicals stored in separate location.
- Chlorine based chemicals stored away from other chemicals.
- Acids stored away from other chemicals.
- Floor free of water. Equipment free of leaks.
- Miscellaneous items not stored in pump room without adequate storage/ organization to avoid fire/injury.

LOCKER ROOMS & REST ROOMS

- Plumbing & equipment maintained and in good working order.

- Shower temperatures 90-120 degrees F.
- Soap available in showers and at hand sinks.
- Toilet paper available.
- Paper towels available at hand sinks.
- Diaper changing tables available in both men's and women's locker/ restrooms.

LIFEGUARDED FACILITIES

- Lifeguards and attendants have current CPR, First Aid and Life guarding certifications.
- Lifeguards stations located to ensure 30 second response time.
- Lifeguard response drills planned.
- Back board if facility requires a lifeguard.
- Rescue tube or rescue buoy at each lifeguard station

OPERATIONS & RECORDKEEPING

- Operations plan completed, available and in-use (template available on our website).
- Daily logs for testing pool and spa chemicals available and in use.
- Copies of all certifications and trainings on file and available for inspector review.
- Incident forms for reporting injury, illness, drowning or near drowning available and in use.
- Emergency response plan in place.
- Guidelines for when to close the pool due to weather, pool conditions, or contamination.
- Review past Cowlitz County Health & Human Services inspection reports for violations requiring correction.
- Have a complete copy of Chapter 246-260 Washington Administrative Code on file.
- Consider getting certified as a Pool & Spa Operator (CPO) through the Pool & Hot Tub Alliance. See phta.org for information on available certification courses.