



COWLITZ COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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THE TIDY POOL

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Proper Chemical Storage Requirements

Protect your facility and employees by ensuring pool chemicals are stored safely. Chemicals used in pools are very reactive and can result in fires, explosions or poisonous gas clouds if not stored and used properly. Proper storage includes preventing chemicals from mixing or getting wet from water.

To prevent chemicals from getting wet from water the following methods should be employed:

- Keep containers closed when not using
- Store chemicals away from doors and windows
- Ensure there are no roof leaks, open windows or leaks from water pipes near chemicals
- Slope floors to drain water away from chemicals
- Store chemicals on shelves or pallets to keep off floor
- Use waterproof covers on packaging
- Use caution when cleaning or using water to prevent contact with chemicals
- Prevent water from backing up through floor drains

Avoid mixing chemicals by following the following tips:

- Separate incompatible chemicals and avoid storing liquids above other chemicals
- Store only identical chemicals above or below each other
- Do not mix old chemicals with fresh chemicals
- Use separate tools/scoops for each chemical
- Make chemical storage area housekeeping a priority - keep area clean and keep nonessential items away from pool chemicals
- Use separate, designated containers for cleanup of spills
- Do not store combustible or flammable materials near the chemicals (such as gas, oil, paint, oily rags, etc)

Do not allow ignition sources such as gas powered equipment in chemical storage areas and store chemicals in a cool area and in conditions specified by the manufacturer.

State Pool Training

The Washington State Environmental Health Association and the Washington State Department of Health will be hosting their annual pool training on April 20, 2016 in Lakewood, WA. The training is an all day training facilitated by the DOH Pool Program. More information about this training can be found at www.wseha.org. The cost of the training in 2015 was \$40.00. The price for the 2016 training will be posted on the above website when available.

Certified Pool Operator classes are also available in the Portland/Vancouver area and can be located at www.nspf.org

Program Contact Info

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Included with this newsletter is the water quality requirements for pools in Washington State.

Water Quality Standards Swimming Pool

TYPE OF DISINFECTANT	Minimum	MAXIMUM
Chlorine	1.5	10.0
Chlorine with Cyanuric Acid	2.0	10.0
Bromine	2.5	10.0

Spa & Wading Pool

Type of Disinfectant	Minimum	Maximum
Chlorine	3.0	10.0
Chlorine with Cyanuric Acid	3.5	10.0
Bromine	4.0	10.0

Required Ranges for Selected Chemical and Physical

Water Quality Constituents

Chemical/Physical	Minimum	Maximum
pH	7.2	8.0
Temperature	-	104°F
Cyanuric Acid	-	90 ppm
Combined Chlorine	-	50% of Free Chlorine
Water Clarity	Main drain and pool bottom must be visible at all times	-

Recommended Ranges for Other Water Quality Constituents

	Minimum	Maximum
Alkalinity		
Plaster Pools	80 ppm	120 ppm
Painted, Vinyl, Fiberglass	100 ppm	150 ppm
Calcium Hardness		
Swimming Pool	200 ppm	400 ppm
Spa Pool	150 ppm	250 ppm