



J. Patrick O'Neal, MD, Commissioner | Nathan Deal, Governor

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November 1, 2017

Dear Swimming Pool/Spa Operator:

The Georgia Department of Public Health has updated and amended the *Rules and Regulations -- Public Swimming Pools, Spas, and Recreational Water Parks Chapter 511-3-5*. The new version of the *Rules and Regulations* has been adopted by the Richmond County Board of Health and is now being enforced.

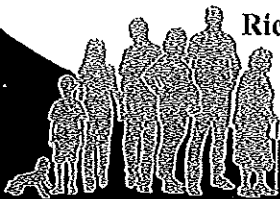
Enclosed is a list of the major changes to the regulations that may affect your existing pool/spa. Please be advised that the pool/spa rules signage requirements have changed. Specific information regarding the sign changes is also enclosed.

All current public pool/spa operating permits expire December 31, 2017. Your pool/spa must comply with the updated Chapter prior to the issuance of the operating permit for 2018.

This notification is being sent in an effort to allow ample time for you to make necessary adjustments for compliance prior to 2018. If you have any questions, please contact your inspector at (706)667-4234.

Sincerely,

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Richmond County Health Department / Environmental Health Services

Building K

D. Stephen Goggans, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner of Health

We Protect Lives.

(12) Warning Signs for Swimming Pools. Signs shall be provided as follows:

- (a) The words "No Diving" and the universal international symbol for "NO DIVING" shall be permanently visible at the edge of the deck for water five feet in depth or less, placed only on the deck beside the depth markers, and shall conform to that outlined for depth markers in subsections (3)(a) thru (h) above.
- (b) Where no lifeguard is on duty, a sign or signs shall be placed in clear view at or near the entrance to the pool and shall state in clearly legible letters at least four inches high "WARNING - NO LIFE GUARD ON DUTY and RISK OF DROWNING - SUPERVISE CHILDREN CLOSELY".
- (c) The same sign in subsection (b) above or an additional sign will state under the heading "Pool Risks" the following items in clearly legible letters at least one inch high:
 - 1. Shower before entering the water.
 - 2. Children shall not use pool without an adult in attendance.
 - 3. Adults should not swim alone.
 - 4. All children three years old and younger and any child not potty-trained must wear snug fitting plastic pants or a water resistant swim diaper.
 - 5. Do not swim if the suction outlets are missing, broken, or not clearly visible from the deck.
 - 6. No glass articles allowed in or around pool.
 - 7. Do not swallow the pool water.
 - 8. Do not dive unless diving area is clear of other bathers.
 - 9. Do not swim if you had diarrhea within the past two weeks.
 - 10. No animals are allowed in the pool or pool enclosure, except service animals are allowed on the deck.

AMENDED PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL RULES AND REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 511-3-5

The items indicated below are major changes in the Chapter that apply to **existing facilities**. Use this sheet as a guide to help you identify pool fixtures and operations impacted by the changes.

Check if item is applicable or write N/A	Section	Rule Description	Page(s)
RULE 01-DEFINITIONS			
	(71)	Public Swimming Pool – classifications: Class A - Competitive Class B - General Recreational Class C - Lodging and Multi-residential Class D - Special Purpose Class E - Water temperature ≥ 90 F	10
	(86)	Responsible Person – an individual that is responsible for daily water monitoring operations when a trained operator is not on-site or making visits to the public pool daily.	14
RULE 02-SCOPE			
	(7)	All single, dual, or multiple drain covers and grates shall comply with ANSI/APSP-16 or any successor standard that may be prescribed by ANSI/APSP.	20
RULE 10-RETURN INLETS AND SUCTION OUTLETS			
	(7)	The vacuum line shall be protected with a self-closing, self-latching fitting that complies with the current IAMPO SPS 4- Special Use Suction Fitting for Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs.	56
RULE 11-Surface Skimmer Systems			
	(3) (g)	The skimmer equalizer lines shall be protected by an approved cover/grated with a flow rating equal the maximum system flow divided by the number of skimmers in the system or the maximum flow rating of the skimmer, whichever is greater.	57
RULE 17-CHEMICAL OPERATIONAL PARAMETERS			
	(1) (b)	Free available chlorine: 1- 10 ppm	71
	(1) (c)	Free Chlorine level in pools using cyanuric acid or a stabilized chlorine product: 2.0 to 10 ppm	71
	(1)	Combined Chlorine: 0.4 ppm	71
	(4)	Cyanuric Acid Level: ≤ 90 ppm	75

		(c) If stabilized chlorine is used as the primary disinfectant, the operator shall test cyanuric acid every two weeks. Otherwise, cyanuric acid shall be tested monthly.	
		(d) For spas and hot water venues, free available chlorine, total bromine, pH and water temperature shall be tested prior to opening and recorded every four hours.	
		(e) In-line oxidation reduction potential readings (if applicable) shall be recorded at the same time the free available chlorine or total bromine and pH tests are performed.	
		(f) If in-line electrolytic chlorinators are used, salt levels shall be tested at least weekly or per manufacturer's instructions.	
	(10)	Water Testing Procedure. The pool operator or responsible person shall acquire a water sample for testing the chemical parameters:	109
		(a) The sample shall be obtained from at least eighteen inches below the surface of the water and from a location between the inlets.	
		(b) The sample shall be obtained from a section of the pool that has a water depth of between three to four feet when available.	
		(c) For each water test, sampling locations shall rotate around the shallower end of the pool. The pool operator shall include the deepest area of the pool in the water sampling rotation once per week.	

April 10, 2017