

Swimming Pool Opening Checklist

(The following checklist was prepared by the Vigo County Health Department to guide you in opening your seasonal pool. It is not necessary to schedule a pre-opening, but please review the checklist prior to opening. If you have questions regarding your pool, contact Marci DeBoy at (812) 462-3281.

Pool Area

- Is the water clear?
- Does the deck area have a 4-foot perimeter free of obstruction?
- Are handrails and ladders secured?
- Can I see the main drain? Is the drain cover secure?

Safety Requirements

- One unit of lifesaving equipment is stored within 20 feet of the pool and provided for each 2,000 ft²
 - Includes 12 ft life pole or shepherd's crook AND ring buoy having minimum outside diameter of 20 inches and rope
- Spine board with straps and head immobilizer is available, except for spas and wading pools
- A 24 unit first aid kit that meets American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard Z308.1-2003 or 2009 plus 2 blankets
- A removable buoyed transition line separates the shallow end of the pool at 5 ft or less
- Is there a telephone within 200 ft of pool enclosure posting emergency numbers?
- Do I have qualified lifeguard(s) if my pool has a surface area of 2,000 ft² or more?
- Do I have the proper signage posted? (See back)
- Is my pool in compliance with the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Act?

Water Quality

- I have submitted and passed a bacteriological exam performed by a state-approved laboratory one week prior to opening
- Are chlorine or bromine levels acceptable? (most pools must maintain a chlorine residual of 1-7 ppm)
- Is the combined chlorine less than or equal to 0.5ppm?
- Is the pH between 7.2 and 7.8?
- Are cyanuric acid stabilizers (if used) less than 60ppm?
- The alkalinity of the water is at least 80ppm, but does not exceed 120ppm

Equipment

- Operating records are logged daily
- Is my filter pump grounded?

Warning Signs

In at least 4 inch letters:

- “DANGER-HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS” on chemical storage room
- “POOL CLOSED” when pool is not open for use
- “NO DIVING” shall be posted at non-diving areas and areas less than 5ft deep (excluding spas and wading pools)

In clearly legible letters at least 2 inches tall:

- For pools open for use and without a lifeguard, “WARNING- NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY. NO SWIMMING ALONE. CHILDREN UNDER 14 YEARS OF AGE AND NONSWIMMERS SHALL NOT USE THE POOL UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY A RESPONSIBLE ADULT.”

In clearly legible letters at least 1 inch tall:

- 1) “Anyone who has or has had diarrhea in the past 2 weeks shall not use the pool.
- 2) Anyone who has an area of exposed subepidermal tissue, open blisters, cuts, etc., is advised not to use the pool.
- 3) All persons shall take a cleansing shower before using the pool. A bather leaving the pool to use the toilet shall take another cleansing shower before returning to the pool enclosure.
- 4) Spitting, spouting of water, blowing the nose, and similar behavior in the pool is prohibited.
- 5) No running or rough play is permitted in the pool, on the runways, on diving boards, on floats, on platforms, in dressing rooms, or in showers.
- 6) Street clothes are not allowed in the pool.
- 7) All diaper-aged children shall use plastic pants with tight fitting elastic at the legs and waist, or swim diapers.
- 8) Do not change diapers at poolside.”

In clearly legible letters at least 1 inch tall:

1. Post maximum bather load within the pool enclosure (formula attached)

*Refer to ISDH Swimming Pool Rule for additional signage for spas and water slides