

New Jersey State Sanitary Code Chapter IX Public Recreational Bathing N.J.A.C. 8:26 Changes – 1/16/18

ALL POOLS

- The definition of Altered and Alteration has changed to include the change of any item that is not with the same or newer model number. Definitions changed for aquatic recreation facility, Operator & Owner.
- The owner or Trained Pool Operator (TPO) of a seasonal facility must complete the health department inspection checklist and submit it 21 days prior to opening to the local Health Department.
- The owner or Trained Pool Operator (TPO) of a year-round facility must complete the health department inspection checklist and submit it 30 days prior to expiration.
- A year round facility shall be inspected twice a year by the Health Department.
- Any new facility will be inspected prior to opening for the first time to the public.
- A seasonal facility shall be inspected once during the season by the Health Department.
- Public recreational bathing facility shall not be opened to the public until inspected by health department.
- Trained pool operator must visit the facility at least once a week, document such visit in writing, and have the documentation kept in the office available for inspection by the local Health Department.
- An alternate method of adding makeup water can be used with approval from the Health Department.
- Chapter 3 does not apply if the swimming pool and wading pools were constructed before 9/7/10, UNTIL alterations are made.
- When making alterations, it is required to get approval by the Health Department and local code officials at the same time. Structural alterations must be sealed and certified by a design professional.
- All swimming pools and wading pools must comply with VGB Pool and Spa Safety Act
- Special exempt does not apply to facilities that have a functional diving board, water slide, or other recreational addition that presents an increased safety risk hazard.

New Jersey State Sanitary Code Chapter IX Public Recreational Bathing N.J.A.C. 8:26 Changes – 1/16/18

- Special exempt facilities must have an owner or operator on site at all times pool is open for use.
- Specially exempt signage has changed to include hours of operation, which can be added to your existing 3 ft. x 4 ft. sign.
- At campgrounds, hotels, and motels needs to change sign stating the facility 'IS' closed when the owner or 'OPERATOR' is not on the premises. The sign still needs to be at the registration desk and in each room.
- Pools larger than 2,000 Sq. Ft. need the adult supervisor to have a Pool Director Training Certification. (CPO will be acceptable).
- Sign indicating the location of the first aid supplies is needed.
- Trained pool operator (TPO) must visit once a week and review documentation and inspect facility.
- Pools less than 2,000 square feet or 60 bathers or less require one (1) lifeguard following zone protection plan.
- Pools greater than 2,000 square feet require two (2) lifeguards at all times following zone protection plan.
- Lifeguards are not permitted to do anything that would distract them from their lifesaving duties which includes cell phones, electronic devices, reading, personal conversations, or listening to music.
- NJ requires lifeguard platforms, stands, or acceptable alternative methods for pools with surface area greater than 2,000 square feet, or with diving areas, or where depth is greater than five (5) feet.
- Aquatic facility plan also needs to include location of emergency shut off, floats/toys policies, hours of operation, schedule of activities for water testing and record keeping, and lifeguard zone protection plan.
- Only one (1) assist pole with life hook is now required.
- Only one (1) ring buoy for specially exempt facilities is now required.
- First Aid kit inventory changed and is located in the appendix.

New Jersey State Sanitary Code Chapter IX Public Recreational Bathing N.J.A.C. 8:26 Changes – 1/16/18

- Backboard must be kept poolside. Straps are not permitted to be Velcro.
- Sign posted with number of nearest rescue squad, police and other appropriate entities, with address of pool adjacent to the lifeguard station.
- One or more throw lines that can reach the other side of the pool are required.
- Pools that have lifeguards need an accessible automated external defibrillator (AED).
- Bather Rules sign also need hours of operation and #4 regarding diapers has changed the wording.
- Both diving and non-diving areas need to be marked with signs and symbols.
- Facilities constructed prior to 11/4/86 need a bathroom, which can be portable, but do not need dressing rooms.
- Facilities constructed prior to 9/7/10, must have bathrooms, which can be portable, and dressing rooms within 50 feet of the body of water or beach entrance. Existing condos that have all residences within 100 feet of the pool do not require a bathroom or dressing room.
- Portable bathrooms can be used but must have toilet paper holders with adequate paper, hand soap or sanitizer. Regular bathrooms must have the same as well as hand towels or air hand-driers.
- Wastewater disposal must be approved by the local Health Department and/or Department of Environmental Protection as applicable: into sewer from Sewer Authority or municipality; into natural waters requires NJPDES permit from DEP.
- Owner/operator must inspect recreational equipment (such as playgrounds) and maintain written record of inspection.
- All surfaces in pools and wading pools must be free of cracks.
- Bather load now in Uniform Construction Code 5:23 which references the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code.
- Pumps must operate 24 hours day/7 days a week, but a 2-speed pump can be used when closed at night and the TOR does not need to be met while closed and has to be brought up to full speed prior to opening.

New Jersey State Sanitary Code Chapter IX Public Recreational Bathing N.J.A.C. 8:26 Changes – 1/16/18

- Direction of water flow and pump rotation shall be clearly indicated on all pumps and visible piping.
- Pools must be closed if suction outlet covers or main drains are missing, broken, or loose and they must be inspected daily.
- Continual disinfection is required.
- Chemical control systems need a preventative maintenance plan developed and maintained on-site to ensure accuracy of controllers and sensors. It must be in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations; show how the pool operator can ensure feeders turn on/off to maintain levels and residuals; includes a chart detailing ORP and Chlorine/Bromine equivalents is readily available on-site; and the readouts on ORP and pH coincide with manual tests and are documented in the logbook.
- Chemical control system can be used in place of every two (2) hour testing. If so, the pool must be manually tested twice a day (once at opening and once at closing) and this data must be collected downloaded, stored, and printed upon request.
- If using salt cells, must ensure adequate feed to meet chlorine residuals of a minimum of 1.0 and maximum of 10.0 for chlorine.
- Depth markers must be marked in feet and inches (with abbreviations acceptable); on vertical wall at or above water surface; and on top of coping, edge of deck, or on walkway.
- Spa bather load now in Uniform Construction Code 5:23 which references the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code.
- Dressing rooms, showers, and bathrooms must be maintained, cleaned and disinfected daily at a minimum, and more as needed.
- The bacteria sample must now be at the lab within eight (8) hours, kept at <50 degrees F in a fridge or ice chest, and labeled.
- If failed bacteria test, the health department & Operator must be notified within one (1) hour and a written report provided within one (1) business day. The sample must be retested within 24 hours.
- Water needs to be tested every two (2) hours, unless a downloadable/printable automatic chemical controlling system is used.

New Jersey State Sanitary Code Chapter IX Public Recreational Bathing N.J.A.C. 8:26 Changes – 1/16/18

- Cyanruic Acid must be tested once a week.
- Open ended regulation for any condition that health department deems needed for proper sanitation, safety, and or fire protection.
- Health Department will review the checklist to determine if the facility needs to be inspected prior to opening.
- New terms including satisfactory, conditionally satisfactory, and unsatisfactory being used to define a facility. A placard must immediately be posted near the entrance of the facility with rating for public to view.
- Pools must be closed immediately if chlorine or pH is not within range as based on lab testing.
- Records must be maintained for a minimum of three (3) years, and 10 years if an injury relating to death, unconscious, or injuries to head, neck or spinal cord has occurred.
- New first aid kit quantities are now based on surface area of the pool.

SPAS

- Automatic safety device on spa heater to shut it off if over 104 degrees.
- Spa thermometer must be visible to the public.
- Hot tubs and spas must comply with subchapter 4.
- An alternate method of adding makeup water for a spa can be used with approval from the Health Department.
- The spa piping and pump shall have the rotation and direction clearly marked and visible.
- An equivalent is acceptable in place of a sight glass on a spa.
- Spa must now have a vacuum gauge, filter inlet pressure gauge, filter outlet pressure gauge, and a flow meter.
- Continual disinfection for spas.
- Gas chlorine is prohibited for spas.

New Jersey State Sanitary Code Chapter IX Public Recreational Bathing N.J.A.C. 8:26 Changes – 1/16/18

- Spa disinfection shall be downstream and lower than the heater outlet fitting.
- Spa chemical feeders shall be wired so it cannot operate unless the filter pump is running.
- Salt or bromine test kit for spas, if using.
- All spas must comply with VGB Pool and Spa Safety Act.
- Spa First Aid kit inventory changed and located in appendix
- Spa sign wording has changed and is less wordy (Drugs).
- Spa clock must be visible from the spa.
- Spa shut-off switch has been moved to section 6.
- Spa has a 30 minute turnover, but when the spa is not open can have a 6 hour turnover if a multispeed pump is used.
- Spa pipes, flow of water, and pump rotation must be labeled.
- Chemical control system requirements are the same as swimming pools regarding written plans.
- Spa depth markers must be labeled the same as pools.
- If spa fails the state lab bacteria test, it must be drained, cleaned, refilled, rebalanced, and resampled. Spa can reopen while waiting resample results. If the spa fails second test, it must be closed until it passes.

WADING POOLS

- Existing wading pools that have a single main drain requires an automatic shutoff system.
- For wading pools and spray parks, an individual supervisor is required to supervise all activities.
- New sign for wading pool and spray parks requiring parents to supervise their children at all times.

NEW OR ALTERED BODIES OF WATER

New Jersey State Sanitary Code Chapter IX Public Recreational Bathing N.J.A.C. 8:26 Changes – 1/16/18

- New or altered swimming pools and wading pools must comply with subchapter 3.
- Wading pools must have a four foot (4 ft.) high barrier with a self-closing and self-latching gate.
- Provide bonding and grounding certificate to the health department as well as town electrical certificate.
- The piping and pump shall have the rotation and direction clearly marked and visible.
- An equivalent is acceptable in place of a sight glass.
- Swimming pool and wading pool must now have a vacuum gauge, filter inlet pressure gauge, filter outlet pressure gauge, and a flow meter.
- Newly constructed wading pools must be physically set apart from the pool by at least six feet (6')
- Single main drain is prohibited for newly constructed wading pools.
- Wading pools turnover rate is now one (1) hour. § 8:26-3.18 Wading pools
- Pool turnover rate is now six (6) hours.
- Gas chlorine is prohibited.
- Pool and spa disinfection shall be downstream and lower than the heater outlet fitting.
- Chemical feeder shall be wired so it cannot operate unless the filter pump is running.

HEALTH CLUBS

- The term “specially exempt” for health clubs has changed that a lifeguard is required during swim lessons and rentals. If the pool is less than five (5) feet deep and no one under the age of 16 is permitted, than a lifeguard is not required during normal operations.
- If the health club is deemed specially exempt, it still must comply and have AED equipment.
- Health club needs to notify the Health Department if they will be a specially exempt facility, and requires additional signage both at entrance and member desk with it is closed if owner/operator is not on duty, and no one under 16 is permitted to use the pool.

New Jersey State Sanitary Code Chapter IX Public Recreational Bathing N.J.A.C. 8:26 Changes – 1/16/18

OTHER INFO

- The definition of “Spray Park” has been added and all are now covered by this chapter (PRB).
- Aquatic recreation facilities must comply with Subchapter 3 & 4 and N.J.A.C. 5:14 A-12. None are grandfathered.
- New waterslide and lifeguard requirements must be clear and delineated at the waterslide and landing area.
- Aquatic recreation facilities must now also do bacteria testing. It has to be done weekly, and can go to every other week if it has three (3) months of positive results.
- Rope drops, cliff jumping, and aquatic play equipment.

BATHING BEACHES

- Bathing beach requires adult supervisor to inspect and document the inspection at least once a week.
- Bathing beach requires a sign indicating the location of the first aid supplies.
- Bathing beach now requires two (2) lifeguards for every 300 feet, except for areas less than 100 square feet only require one (1) lifeguard. § 8:26-5.10 Bathing beach supervision
- Bathing beach has added hours and schedule of activities to the aquatics plan.
- There shall be at least one (1) lifeguard on each stand.
- Bather rules sign similar to swimming pools need to be posted. Tube, can, or torpedo rescue equipment is required at each lifeguard station.
- AED's are required if lifeguards are present, or if can accommodate 500 swimmers/bathers.
- Signage for phone similar to swimming pool phone sign is required at the bathing beach.
- No vehicles permitted on bathing beaches, aside from emergency or maintenance.

New Jersey State Sanitary Code Chapter IX Public Recreational Bathing N.J.A.C. 8:26 Changes – 1/16/18

- Beach signs are required to warn of storms and rip currents at each entrance and both ends of the beach.
- Bathing beach must post a sign within two (2) hours at the entrance and both ends notifying of failing water quality standards.
- Beaches that have been closed for more than 50 percent of the time after rainfall, a permanent sign must be posted notifying of such.