



Required Aquatic Facility Signage

Pools

“WARNING NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY” - 4 inch letters

“NO DIVING” letters and international symbol – 4 inch letters

“CHILDREN SHOULD NOT USE POOL WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION” – 2 inch letters

“IN CASE OF EMERGENCY DIAL 911” – 1 inch letters

SPAS

“CHILDREN SHOULD NOT USE SPA WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION” - 2 inch letters

“DO NOT USE SPA IF WATER TEMPERATURE EXCEEDS 104°F” – 1 inch letters

Post maximum spa bather load

Label “Emergency Shutoff Switch”

PIWF (Splash pad)

“NON-SERVICE ANIMALS PROHIBITED”

“CHANGING DIAPERS WITHIN 6 FEET OF THE WATER FEATURE IS PROHIBITED”

“USE OF THE WATER FEATURE IF ILL WITH A CONTAGIOUS DISEASE IS PROHIBITED”

“DO NOT DRINK WATER FROM THE WATER FEATURE”

“USE OF THE WATER FEATURE WHEN ILL WITH DIARRHEA IS PROHIBITED”

Contact name and number if no on-site owner or operator

Useful Information

This document should be used as a reminder and not a sole source of information. Items included in this brochure are a few of the requirements that Chapter 43 of the City Code of Ordinances require.

In January 2011 the City adopted standards found in the Virginia Graeme Baker Act; Chapter 757 of the Texas Health and Safety Code; and Subchapters L and M of Chapter 265 of Title 25 of the Texas Administrative Code.

Contact Us



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Houston Department of Health and Human Services

Aquatic Facility Inspection Requirements

Swimming Pools Spas Splash Pads

What to Expect During Your Aquatic Facility Inspections?

Aquatic Facility Inspection Program

- More than 60% of drownings of 0–4 year-olds occur in pools
- Swimming is the fourth most popular recreational activity in the United States
- Houston has over 3,700 commercial pools - ALL require an annual inspection or more frequent if violations are present.
- If a facility requires a re-inspection, there is a re-inspection fee.

Don't Fail Your Residents



Gate not Self-closing or self latching.

Pool has algae and water clarity issues.



INSPECTIONS

Safety

- 12 foot nonconductive safety pole with shepherd's hook
- USCG approved ring buoy with throwing rope
- Emergency summoning device (phone, call box – cannot be answered by an on-site office)
- Thermometer for spa users
- Chemical levels (pH, chlorine/bromine)
- Enclosure must be at least 48 inches tall (Apartments, Condominiums, and Townhomes)
- Enclosure must be at least 6 feet tall. (HOA pools, competition pools, schools, park pool etc.)
- No Gaps larger than 4 inches between fence pickets and between the ground and the bottom of the fence.
- No climbing hazards outside or around the pool enclosure.

Administrative Requirements

- Valid operating permit must be onsite and posted
- VGBA compliance documents indicating date of installation and life span of the approved drain cover
- Verify current ownership information, contact information and mailing address.

Reasons for Closing a Pool

Any closure will result in a re-inspection which carries a fee.

- Enclosure (fence) height
- Gaps greater than four inches
- Gates and doors not self-closing/self-latching
- No enclosure (fence)
- Chemical levels out of range
- Drain covers missing
- No safety vacuum release system (if required)
- Drain covers not VGB compliant
- Issues with filtration equipment
- Equalizer covers missing/not VGB compliant
- Water is cloudy/drain covers not clearly visible
- No Permit

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