

Environmental Health Services Division

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Requests for Limited Use Water Recreation Facilities to be Reclassified and Operate as a General Use Water Recreational Facility Handout

Owners of limited use water recreation facilities can request reclassification as a general use water recreational facility. The owner must submit this request and be approved through plan review with the Health Department. The limited use pool must meet the following requirements in order to be reclassified and operate as a general use pool which includes the following (these requirements are outlined in [Chapter 246-260 WAC](#) and [Chapter WAC 246-262](#), as applicable):

1. A signed and dated declaration stating how the facility will operate as a general use facility. Declaration must include information on how users outside the homeowner's association (HOA) geographic jurisdiction may become members or how the general public may use the pool(s). Note - HOAs may want to confer with their legal counsel on whether revising your HOA bylaws would be advisable, to reflect the change in pool use.
2. The barrier, fence and gate at minimum heights of 6 feet per WAC 246-260-031(4)(c).
3. Riser heights on pool steps for general use pools as required per WAC 246-260-031(11)(b)(vi).
4. Locker rooms and dressing rooms per WAC 246-260-031(20)(a) and (c).
5. Restrooms, shower rooms, fixtures, and diaper changing stations following Table 031.5 regardless of the distance between the pool and the farthest living unit as required per WAC 246-260-031(21) and (22).
6. Hose bibs, janitor's sink, and drinking fountains as required per WAC 246-260-031(21).
7. No sand and grass areas per WAC 246-260-041(2)(e).
8. An emergency phone within the facility per WAC 246-260-041(11)(a).
9. Pool ledges must meet the requirements per WAC 246-260-091(3).
10. Pools with existing ballet or exercise rails must meet the requirements of WAC 246-260-091(8)(b)(ii).
11. Food and beverage service areas must be separate from the pool and deck enclosure area. Sale or consumption of alcohol is prohibited per WAC 246-260-131(3).
12. Lifeguards present at all times as required per WAC 246-260-131(6)(b).
13. Slides must meet the requirements of WAC 246-262-070 and 080.
14. Revising the Operations and Maintenance Manual, Lifeguarding Manual and Emergency Action Plan meeting the general use requirements of WAC 246-260 and WAC 246-262 (as applicable).

15. Recommend contacting insurance company to verify if they will insure the water recreational facility for general use.

If the limited use facility meets all the requirements listed above, owners can apply for a general use reclassification by submitting a renovation plan review application.

1. Download a plan review application at <https://www.kingcounty.gov/depts/health/environmental-health/healthy-communities/water-recreation/~media/depts/health/environmental-health/documents/water-recreation/application-pool-plan-review.ashx>.
2. Submit the application and fee along with a copy of the documentation to demonstrate compliance with the General Use requirements of Chapter 246-260 WAC.
3. Submittal must be approved, and inspection completed to verify the water recreational facility is in compliance with the general use requirements of the code prior to the reclassification to operate as a general use facility.
4. Required plan review documentation includes:
 - Drawing, sketch, and/or photos of barrier showing fence/barrier height is a minimum of 6 feet per (WAC 246-260-031(4)(c). Provide a photo of the barrier construction materials (example: wrought iron, solid wood, chain link, etc.).
 - Provide a sketch showing the riser heights of pool steps. Uniform riser heights of seven and one-half inches or less are required for general use pools of fifteen hundred square feet more and spas greater than forty feet in perimeter (except for bottom stair) as required per WAC246-260-031(11)(b)(vi).
 - Provide a drawing, sketch and/or photos, of the locker rooms and dressing rooms layout as required per WAC 246-260-031(20)(a) and (c) showing:
 - Separate locker and/or dressing rooms for each gender, constructed to block the line of sight into the locker room.
 - Non-slip floors, sloped to drains to prevent standing water
 - Cleanable walls, lockers, and benches
 - Lockers are properly anchored to wall
 - Junctions between walls and floors are covered for ease of cleaning
 - Provide drawing, sketch, and/or photos of the restrooms. Restrooms must be in compliance with requirements of WAC 246-260-031(21) and (22), including the number of fixtures required for occupancy load by gender under Table 031.5, regardless of the distance between the pool and the farthest living unit. Show the number of fixtures (toilets, urinals, sinks, diaper changing stations and showers). Show locations hose bibs, janitor's sink (if indoors and pool is fifteen hundred square feet or more) and drinking fountain (if pool is fifteen hundred square feet or more) as required per WAC 246-260-031(21). Provide the occupancy rating for the facility.
 - Provide drawing, sketch, and/or photos showing layout of water recreational facility within the barrier enclosure. Show the pool and decking areas. Show any

grass, sand or planting areas within the barrier enclosure. All sand and grass areas must be eliminated per WAC 246-260-041(2)(e).

- Provide drawing, sketch, and/or photos showing the location of emergency phone within the facility per WAC 246-260-041(11)(a).
- If present, provide drawing, sketch, and/or photos of the existing pool ledge built into the deep end of the swimming pool. Documentation must show it conforms with FINA rules and there is a contrasting color on the ledge that distinguishes the ledge from the rest of the pool per WAC 246-260-091(3).
- If present, provide a drawing, sketch, and/or photos showing the location of any existing ballet or exercise rails installed in the pool. Provide photograph of how they are installed. Rails must be installed to preclude any obstructions in the pool. The rail must be removable, covers provided and used to maintain flush surfaces per the requirements of WAC 246-260-091(8)(b)(ii).
- If present, provide a drawing, sketch, and/or photos showing the location of any existing slide installed at the pool. Existing slides must comply with the requirements of WAC 246-262-070 and 080 (Lifeguarding).
- Provide drawing, sketch, and/or photos showing where food and beverage services are located. All food and beverage sale and consumption must be separate from the pool and deck enclosures area. The sale or consumption of alcohol is prohibited at all general use facilities. See requirements for food, beverage and alcohol per WAC 246-260-131(3).
- Provide copies of Lifeguarding plan and Emergency Response plan per WAC 246-260-131(9).
- Provide a signed and dated declaration stating how the facility will operate as a general use facility. Declaration must include information on how users outside the homeowner's association (HOA) geographic jurisdiction may become members or how the general public may use the pool(s).