



NEWS SPLASH

Spring 2018

Pool and Spa Contact Information Required

Does your pool or spa facility have someone available on site during business hours? If not, the owner or manager of the complex must provide your Environmental Health Investigator with a way to access the pool or spa and pump room. Options include providing us with a key, key code or contact person on site. Please call or email your EH Investigator with the access information by June 1. Call 206-263-9566 (west side) or 206-477-8050 (east side) and provide the zip code where the pool or spa is located in order to obtain the name and contact information for your EH Investigator.

Reporting Requirements for Injuries and Illnesses

We share the goal of maintaining your pools and spas in a manner that provides a safe and healthy experience for your users. However, sometimes things happen. Any serious illness, injury, drowning or near drowning must be reported to our office within 48 hours of becoming aware of the occurrence. If a person went to the doctor or emergency room, the incident was serious enough that it should be reported. You can find a report form on our webpage at www.kingcounty.gov/health/pools. Keep a report form handy and place a copy in your operations manual.

VGB Compliance Plan Review and Drain Cover Replacement

Has your pool completed plan review for compliance with the federal Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act (VGB)? Not sure? Go to our online portal www.kingcounty.gov/health/portal, select **View permit status** and find the PR record for your pool or spa. Check the [Details](#) for a [Pool Data Form](#) and [Drain cover updates](#). No pool data form means plan review has not been completed.

Completing VGB plan review for your pool or spa doesn't mean you can forget about your drain covers. The covers must be checked routinely to make sure they remain securely attached and intact. All parts used must be from the manufacturer, including screws. If a safety vacuum relief system (SVRS) was required as part of VGB compliance, the SVRS system must be in operation at all times and tested at least every 6 months. Document testing on your daily log sheet.

All drain covers have an expiration date for parts that must be replaced prior to expiration. Replacement documentation should be submitted to us through the online portal in the [Details](#) section (see above). If significant changes are made, plan review may be required. We recommend you work with an experienced pool company to complete plan review or replace covers.

Making Other Pool Changes

All the original equipment in your pump room was selected for your pool or spa by a design engineer. When a pump, filter or other equipment is replaced or added, it is critical that the equipment is properly sized and meets regulation requirements for your pool. We recommend you work with an experienced pool company when making these changes. Other pool changes include barrier and restroom modifications. Regardless of the change, it is important that we be notified prior to making the change. Some changes will require formal plan review. Other changes can be addressed with a pool data form update. Questions? Call 206-263-9566 and ask to speak to a pool plan reviewer.

Have a Safe Year at Your Pool

If your pool is required to be lifeguarded be sure there are always an adequate number of lifeguards on duty that have all the required training.

If your pool is not required to be lifeguarded and no lifeguards are provided, you are required to provide notifications to inform adults of the oversight requirements for pool users less than 18 years of age. You must provide the notification prior to first use of the pool and at least annually.

The notification needs to inform the users –

- Children 12 years old or younger must be accompanied by a responsible adult that remains at the pool or pool deck at all times.
- 13 to 17 year olds are required to have at least one other person present at the pool.

Depending on the type of facility, options include providing initial notification along with a copy of pool rules at the time of check in or during lease or membership signing. Hotels, motels, apartments, condominiums, fraternities, sororities, home owners associations and mobile home parks are examples of facilities required to provide this notification except when pools are lifeguarded.

Conditions That Require Actions by Your Facility to Keep Your Pool Safe and Avoid a Closure Plus Reinspection by Public Health Include:

- If water clarity or water quality is outside the free chlorine and combined chlorine or bromine, pH, water clarity, cyanuric acid or temperature range listed in Tables 111.1 or 111.2, the facility must close until water clarity and quality is restored to the acceptable range. (See specifics in tables.)
- If submerged suction main drain or equalizer outlet covers are broken, missing, or not secure, the facility must close until covers are properly installed.
- If the filtration or disinfectant equipment is not functioning, the facility must close until the problem is corrected.
- If the recirculation pump or overflow system (skimmers or gutters) is not working, the facility must close until the system is repaired.
- If a barrier gate or door in a non-lifeguarded pool is not properly self-closing and self-latching, the gate or door must be fixed immediately or locked until it is working properly.
- If required lifeguards or attendants are not present, the facility must be closed.

Table 111.1

Minimum and Maximum Levels of Disinfectant (ppm)*	
Swimming Pool***	Minimum
Chlorine	1.5
Chlorine with cyanurate compound	2.0
Bromine	2.5
Spa & Wading Pool***	Minimum**
Chlorine	3.0
Chlorine with cyanurate compound	3.5
Bromine	4.0

*Chlorine is measured as free available chlorine residual.

**Recirculating spray pools shall meet spa and wading pool levels.

***The maximum disinfectant level shall conform with manufacturers' recommendations and shall not exceed 10 ppm for any pool

Table 111.2

Acceptable Ranges of Selected Chemical and Physical Water Quality Constituents		
Chemical or Physical Constituent	Minimum	Maximum
pH (hydrogen ion)	7.2	8.0
Water Clarity (safety)	Main drain and pool bottom visible at all times	
Turbidity (shielding microorganisms T.U.)*		0.5
Cyanuric acid or its derivatives	0 (Optimum levels 30-50 ppm)	
Temperature**		104 F
Ozone***		0.05
Ionizers (Copper/Silver)		1.0/0.05

*In peak periods, turbidity may increase to 1.0 T.U. provided returns to 0.5 T.U. within a six-hour period following peak use. Turbidity is not a required routine analysis. The local health officer may require turbidity monitoring if special conditions warrant.

**A pool facility thermometer shall be provided when the water temperature exceeds 95 degrees Fahrenheit.

***Atmospheric measurement.