

**WORCESTER COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
PRE-OPENING GUIDE
SEMI PUBLIC POOLS**

A. DECKS

1. _____ POOL WALLS AND BOTTOM SMOOTH, LIGHT COLORED AND EASILY CLEANABLE. (.13)
2. _____ LIFELINE IN PLACE AND SECURE AND A 4" MINIMUM WIDTH ROW OF FLOOR TILE PAINTED LINE OR SIMILAR MEANS OF A COLOR CONTRASTING ON THE BOTTOM. IF POOL IS OVER 6 FT 4 IN. (.13)
3. _____ DEPTH MARKERS LEGIBLE (.13) DEPTH OF WATER IN FEET MARKED AT OR ABOVE THE WATERLINE ON THE POOL WALL AND ON TOP OF THE COPING OR EDGE OF THE DECK OR WALK NEXT TO THE POOL. DEPTH MARKERS MUST BE A MINIMUM OF 4" HIGH
4. _____ FENCING MUST BE IN GOOD REPAIR. (.21)
 - A. MINIMUM 5 FT. FOR MAIN POOL.
 - B. MINIMUM 3 FT. FOR WADING POOL SEPARATION FENCE.
 - C. ACCESS GATE LOCATED AT THE SHALLOW END OF POOL THAT IS SELF-CLOSING AND LATCHING.
 - D. SPA/HOT TUB MUST HAVE 6 FT. FENCE IF NOT INSIDE A POOL ENCLOSURE (.21)
5. _____ DECK AND COPING MUST BE IN GOOD REPAIR AND PROPERLY DRAINED. (.22)
6. _____ EXPANSION JOINTS ARE SEALED. (.22)
7. _____ SCUM GUTTER FREE FLOWING, WHERE APPLICABLE. (.26)
8. _____ VACUUM IS PRESENT AND ADEQUATE. (.26)
9. _____ ALL SKIMMERS ADJUSTED AND FUNCTIONAL. (.26 & .28)
 - A. FLOW REGULATORS INSTALLED, FLAPS IN PLACE.
10. _____ WEIRS PRESENT AND FUNCTIONAL. (.26 & .28)
11. _____ MAIN DRAIN GRATES (COVERS) SECURELY IN PLACE. (.28)
 - A. AT LEAST TWO HYDRAULICALLY BALANCED DRAIN OUTLETS SPACED A MINIMUM OF 3 FEET FROM EDGE TO EDGE THAT CANNOT BE ISOLATED TO CREATE A SINGLE OUTLET FOR EACH PUMP.
 - B. A CHANNEL DRAIN SYSTEM THAT IS AT LEAST 3 FEET FROM EDGE TO EDGE.
 - C. AN APPROVED INFLUENT BLOCKAGE DETECTION DEVICE.
 - D. SUCTION OUTLET COVERS MUST BE VGB COMPLIANT.
 - E. SUCTION OUTLET COVERS MUST BE FREE OF BREAKS, CRACKS, OR DEFECTS.
 - F. SUCTION OUTLET COVERS MUST BE SECURED WITH SCREWS OR FASTENERS. (NO EPOXY, GLUE, TAPE, ETC.).
12. _____ VACUUM PORT IS CAPPED WITH FLUSH CAP WHEN NOT IN USE. (.28)
13. _____ LIGHTS FUNCTIONAL AND SECURE. (.32)
14. _____ INDOOR POOL AREA VENTILATION SYSTEM. (.33)
 - A. FAN, DEHUMIDIFYING DEVICE
15. _____ DRINKING FOUNTAIN(S) PRESENT AND FUNCTIONAL. (.34)

16. ____ HOSE BIB PRESENT WITH ATMOSPHERIC VACUUM BREAKER. (.34)

B. EQUIPMENT ROOM

1. ____ PERMIT POSTED. (.09)

2. ____ ROOM CLEAN, VENTED AND FLOOR DRAINING PROPERLY. (.23)
A. IF CHEMICALS STORED IN EQUIPMENT ROOM, MECHANICAL VENTILATION IS
REQUIRED.

3. ____ LIGHTING ADEQUATE. (.23)

4. ____ POOL DATA SHEET POSTED IN EQUIPMENT ROOM. (.23)

5. ____ HOSE BIB PRESENT WITH ATMOSPHERIC VACUUM BREAKER IN EQUIPMENT ROOM.
(.23)

6. ____ FILTERS, PUMP, HAIR & LINT STRAINER WORKING PROPERLY. (.25)

7. ____ ALL PRESSURE AND VACUUM GAUGES FUNCTIONAL. (.25)

8. ____ FLOW METER FUNCTIONAL AND SIZED APPROPRIATELY FOR THE SYSTEM. (.25)

9. ____ DISINFECTANT DELIVERING EQUIPMENT FUNCTIONAL. (.26)

10. ____ EQUIPMENT/CHEMICAL ROOM LOCKABLE. (.29)

11. ____ AIR GAP ON BACKWASH LINE AND FILL SPOUT. (.34)

12. ____ OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS POSTED. VALVES AND PIPING PROPERLY LABELED
AND/OR TAGGED TO MATCH OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS IN EQUIPMENT ROOM. (.38)

13. ____ TEST KITS ARE PRESENT AND ADEQUATE. (.47)

14. ____ MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS FOR POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS. (.49)

15. ____ DYE TEST SHOWS SUFFICIENT MIXING OF POOL WATER AND INLETS ADJUSTED
PROPERLY.

16. ____ A BONDING WIRE IS CONNECTED TO THE POOL PUMP.

C. BATHHOUSE (IF REQUIRED) (Not required if semi-public pool and bathers have access to equivalent facilities within 500 ft. from the pool.)

1. ____ ALL PLUMBING FIXTURES MUST BE OPERATIONAL. (.35)
2. ____ LIGHTING ADEQUATE. (.35)
3. ____ HOSE BIB PRESENT WITH ATMOSPHERIC VACUUM BREAKER. (.35)
4. ____ PROPER PRESSURE BALANCE ANTI-SCALD UNITS ON SHOWER FIXTURES OR WATER TEMPERATURE DOES NOT EXCEED 115°F. (.36)
5. ____ CLEAN, VENTED AND FLOOR DRAINING PROPERLY. (.35)

D. SAFETY & SIGNS

1. ____ TELEPHONE MUST BE AVAILABLE TO INDIVIDUALS USING THE POOL THAT CAN DIRECTLY REACH 911 WITHOUT THE USE OF A COIN AND WITHOUT CONNECTION TO AN INTERNAL SWITCHBOARD. (.40) PHONES MUST BE WITHIN THE POOL ENCLOSURE.
A. TELEPHONE MUST BE POSTED WITH 911 AND THE NAME AND LOCATION OF THE FACILITY.
2. ____ A LIGHT STRONG RESCUE POLE NOT LESS THAN 10 FEET LONG. (.40)
3. ____ A RING BUOY OR RESCUE TUBE WITH THROWING ROPE MEASURING 50 FEET IN LENGTH OR 1 1/2 TIMES THE WIDTH OF THE POOL. (.40)
4. ____ IF NO CERTIFIED LIFEGUARD IS ON DUTY, A SIGN STATING "WARNING; NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY. SWIM AT YOUR OWN RISK. DO NOT SWIM ALONE. CHILDREN UNDER 15 SHOULD NOT USE THE POOL OR SPA WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION." (.40)
IF POOL IS OVER 2500 SQUARE FEET, A LIFEGUARD MUST BE PROVIDED FROM MEMORIAL DAY TO LABOR DAY.
5. ____ CHEMICAL STORAGE AREA LABELED - " CAUTION! CHEMICAL STORAGE AREA." (.40)
6. ____ ALL CHEMICAL VATS AND CONTAINERS PROPERLY LABELED WITH CONTENTS. (.40)
7. ____ HOUSE RULES. OPERATION HOURS POSTED. (.40)
8. ____ ANY OTHER WARNING SIGNS. "DANGER! NO DIVING" (.40)

E. CERTIFIED POOL OPERATOR

1. ____ CPO MUST BE ABLE TO BE ON SITE WITHIN 15 MINUTES. (.43)
2. ____ CPO RECORDS OR SUPERVISES THE RECORDING OF ALL INFORMATION REQUIRED ON POOL RECORD SHEETS 3 TIMES A DAY. (.46)
3. ____ CPO SIGNS/DATES ALL RECORD SHEETS. (.46)
4. ____ CPO FILLS OUT HAZARD ENTRAPMENT CHECKLIST DAILY AND INITIALS. (.28)

F. WATER CHEMISTRY AND DISINFECTANT LEVELS

1. ____ POOL - FREE CHLORINE BETWEEN 1.5ppm AND 10ppm. (.44)
2. ____ SPA - CHLORINE BETWEEN 4.0ppm AND 10.0ppm. (.44)
3. ____ WADING POOL - CHLORINE BETWEEN 3.0ppm AND 10.0ppm. (.44)
4. ____ POOL – BROMINE BETWEEN 3.0ppm AND 8.0ppm. (.44)
5. ____ SPA - BROMINE BETWEEN 4.0ppm AND 8.0ppm. (.44)
6. ____ WADING POOL – BROMINE BETWEEN 4.0ppm AND 8.0ppm. (.44)
7. ____ pH MAINTAIN BETWEEN 7.2 AND 7.8. (.45)
8. ____ TOTAL ALKALINITY BETWEEN 60ppm AND 180ppm. (.45)
9. ____ CALCIUM HARDNESS BETWEEN 150ppm AND 400ppm. (.45)
- 10 ____ POOL WATER TEMPERATURE FOR INDOOR POOL MAXIMUM 88°F. (.45)
- 11 ____ SPA WATER TEMPERATURE MAXIMUM 104°F. (.45)

Major Compliance Items

All swimming pools must be in compliance with the following regulations prior to the renewal of an operating permit:

COMAR 10.17.01 Public Swimming Pools and Spas

- .05B(22) Pool Bars must have a sign stating "Pool use is limited to hotel guests only" or provide documentation indicating their plan to limit use to hotel/motel patrons
- .21 Semi public pool enclosure (door) entrance gate must be self-closing and self-latching
- .21 The pool barrier is in good repair
- .22 Pool deck condition (severe tripping hazard)
- .23B A pool data sheet is posted
- .25 Flow meter is functioning and the minimum flow rate is being achieved
- .25 An influent and effluent gauge installed (psi) and a vacuum gauge installed (hg) or a compound vacuum gauge (psi)
- .25 A working thermometer located on the return pipe or pool heater (if heater is used)
- .28 Must comply with .28 of COMAR
- .28A Cover on vacuum port (if working vacuum)
- .29 Filter room door locked and working ventilation system with makeup air
- .29 A "Caution Chemical Storage Area" sign located on all entrance doors for said area
- .32B If open after 8:00 p.m., illumination must comply with .32 of COMAR
- .33 Indoor Pools - Ventilation
- .34 Air gap for backwash line and fillspout
- .34 Drinking fountain
- .34E Fillspout located near ladder or painted a contrasting color
- .38C All valves and piping properly labeled (example: main drains and skimmers)
- .39 No return covers are cracked, broken or missing
- .40 Person trained in CPR and First Aid, Lifeguard/CPO on site for a recreational pool (MUST HAVE ALL CERTIFICATION ON SITE)
- .40 Safety Signs Present (No Lifeguard, No Diving)
- .40A Safety equipment present
- .40A First Aid Equipment (Recreational Pool, Public Spa)
- .40B Functional telephone for 911 and signs
- .40C Elevated lifeguard chair (Recreational Pool over 5 feet deep)
- .40D.6 A semi public pool over 2500 sq. ft. is provided with a lifeguard.
- .40E Public spa person trained in CPR and First Aid on-site, "No Lifeguard on Duty" sign for semi-public spa.
- .40F Pool operation hours are posted within the pool enclosure
- .41 & .43 CPO
- .44 Automatic disinfection
- .44.1 & .44.2 Chlorine level
- .44.3 Bromine level
- .45A.1 pH level
- .45A.7 Clarity
- .46 Records kept in compliance with COMAR/Entrapment Hazard Checklist Compliance
- .47 Test kit (on site or with CPO)
A bonding wire is attached to the pool pump. (ANSI 13.1)

Any other violation of COMAR that the inspector deems to create a substantial risk (i.e. – loose coping Stones, broken ladder, etc.

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