


POOL INSPECTIONS
DOH Water Recreation Program
Presenter: Justin Law

The Law

- Chapter 70.90 RCW gives the authority to:
 - Washington State Board of Health to adopt rules (health codes)
 - Secretary of Health to enforce the rules
 - Secretary of Health to develop Joint Plan of Responsibility with any local health department




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The Rules

Chapters 246-260 WAC and 246-262 WAC:

- Provides specific health code requirements
- Provides specific information about who is responsible for what
- WAC 246-260 is for pools, spas, wading pools, splash pads...
- WAC 246-262 is for waterslides, wave pools, and other waterpark type features



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Routine Inspections (1-3 per year)

- Depending on the county, following may vary
 - Inspection forms
 - Number of visits
 - Permit types and fees
 - Policies and procedures

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Operating Permits

- Who issues operating permits?
- An operating permit is required for each water recreation facility operated in this state.
- A person may not operate a WRF without a current operating permit

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Operating Permits

- Valid for one year
- Subject to annual renewal (seasonal and annual permits)
- RCW 70.90.170 (Law)
- Permits may be revoked or suspended

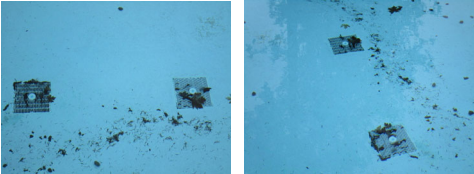
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Example 1 (continued)

- What did you observe?
- What is the violation item number?
- What does the pool code require?
- What is the corrective action?
- What is the timeframe for corrective action?

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Example 2



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Example 2 (continued)

- What did you observe?
- What is the violation item number?
- What does the pool code require?
- What is the corrective action?
- What is the timeframe for corrective action?

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Tools and Equipment for Inspectors



Documents

Pool codes
Inspection forms
Educational documents
Illness and incident forms
Copies of the pool rules and pool logs



Tools and Equipment

Pool Kit
Flash light
Light meter (if available)
Measuring tape
Thermometer
Ear plugs

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Tools and Equipment for Operators



Documents

Operation plans
Dry and liquid measuring conversion sheet
SDSs for each piece of equipment
Pool log records



Tools and Equipment

Pool kit and back-up chemicals
PPE for pool chemicals
Dry and liquid measuring utensils
Tools needed to operate recirculation system equipment

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Staying safe at WRF?

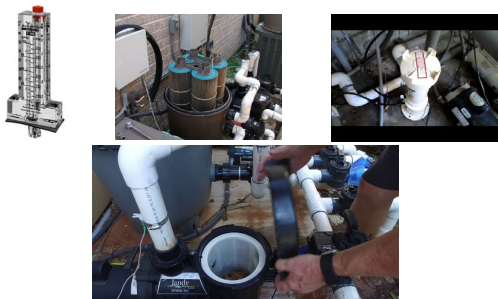
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Pressurized equipment dangers

- All equipment after the pump operates under pressure
- What should I do before adjusting any equipment?
- Wear PPE as recommended



Routine Maintenance with Pressured Equipment



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Commonly used pool chemicals



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CAUTION

Never attempt to clear a clogged line by switching chemicals. Switching the muriatic acid and sodium hypochlorite lines can result in these chemicals mixing and releasing toxic chlorine gas

Never mix different brands of disinfectants



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Chemical Storage Room

- Read and understand the product label for each pool chemical used
- Restrict access to equipment and chemical storage rooms/areas
- Ventilation needed
- Rooms and areas shall be out of direct sunlight, dry and cool
- Sized sufficiently to store all needed pool chemicals



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Chemical Storage

- Don't store chemicals on floor
- Use a different scoop, bucket, & dispensing equipment for each pool chemical
- Know where PPE is located
- Don't eat or drink



Safety Tips When Handling Chemicals

- Remove swimmers from the pool/spa before adding any chemicals
- Follow the product label for each pool chemical used
- Wear PPE as recommended by chemical manufacturer
- Make sure you have the current measuring utensil
- Use a different scoop, bucket, & dispensing equipment for each pool chemical
- Wind direction – avoid breathing dust or fume

DO NOT ADD WATER TO Dry POOL CHEMICALS

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Videos on Chemical Exposure

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHlmDriR7gE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RC015QXlnl4>



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Potential Health Effects of Pool Chemicals

1. Chlorine (skin contact, inhalation, ingestion)
 - o Gas vs Liquid exposure
 - o Blurred vision
 - o Chest tightness
 - o Coughing
 - o Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
2. Acid (inhalation of vapors)
 - o Acute – burns, pulmonary edema, coughing, irritation of the respiratory tract
 - o Long term skin contact: pain, burns, skin irritation
3. Soda Ash
 - o Irritation of the eyes, throat and nose mucous membranes.
 - o Mild irritation of the skin

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Chemical Emergency Plan

1. **Before an incident**
 - Develop a chemical emergency response plan
 - Routinely train staff
2. **During an incident**
 - Activate established chemical emergency response plan
3. **After an incident**
 - Document the incident and response and notify your LHH within 48 hours.
 - Conduct a post-incident critique with all parties involved in the response

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Questions?

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Questions

- 1. Explain the proper way to store pool chemicals.
- 2. As a pool owner or operator, what should I do before replacing my recirculation pump?
- 3. What are some useful tools and equipment that will help me while I am at a water recreation facility?
- 4. As a pool owner or operator, what should I do to prepare my facility for emergencies?
- 5. What are some of the health effects of improper exposure to pool chemicals?

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