



Atlantic County

Department of Human Services

Patricia Diamond
Department Head

609/645-5921 FAX: 645-5904
TDD: 348-5551

Division of Public Health
609/645-5935 FAX: 645-5931

Community Health/Clinical Services
609/645-5933 FAX: 272-8490

Environmental Health
609/645-5971 FAX: 645-5923

Substance Abuse Services
609/645-5932 FAX: 645-5890

Health Planning/Information/Education
609/645-5853 FAX: 645-2857

Dennis Levinson
County Executive

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To: Atlantic County Public Recreational Indoor Pool &
Indoor Spa Owners & Trained Pool Operators

On Tuesday, January 16, the New Jersey Department of Health updated and put into effect the revised Public Recreational Bathing Code found under N.J.A.C. 8:26-1 et seq. You can view the revised bathing rules at <http://www.nj.gov/health/ceohs/documents/phss/recbathing.pdf>. All facilities will need to come into compliance with the new rules. We would like to inform you of some of the specific rule changes that you should be aware of below:

- **Checklist for Public Recreational Bathing Facilities: N.J.A.C. 8:26-2.5(b).** The New Jersey Department of Health now requires the pool owner, operator or trained pool operator to complete a "Checklist" (See attached). This Checklist will have to be submitted annually to this office and certified by the owner, operator or the trained pool operator. A separate Checklist will have to be submitted for each swimming pool, wading pool, hot tub or spa.
- **Trained Pool Operator (TPO) Visits: N.J.A.C. 8:26-2.7(b).** The owner or operator shall ensure that the TPO visits the pool / spa once per week. Visits must be documented and be made available for Health Department review (Preferably in the pool logbook).
- **Signage at Specially Exempt Facilities: N.J.A.C. 8:26-5.1(d)2.** The "No Lifeguard on Duty" sign for "specially exempt" facilities must now include the hours of operation. This can be added to an existing sign.
- **Pool Director Training: N.J.A.C. 8:26-5.2(a)2.** For pools larger than 2,000 square feet, the designated adult supervisor shall possess a pool director training certification. This certification must be acquired by January 16, 2019.
- **Second Life Guard Requirement: N.J.A.C. 8:26-5.2(d)2.** Facilities that have 2,000 square feet (or more) of bathing area will require a second lifeguard.
- **Sign for First Aid Supplies: N.J.A.C. 8:26-5.2(b)2.** A sign is needed for the location of first aid supplies.
- **Lifeguard Distractions: N.J.A.C. 8:26-5.2(d)5&6.** Lifeguards assigned to pool supervision shall not have duties or perform activities that would cause them to become distracted. These include cellphone use, use of electronic devices, reading or listening to music.



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- **Lifeguard Chair Requirement: N.J.A.C. 8:26-5.2(e).** Lifeguard platforms or stands are required where the water surface area is greater than 2,000 square feet, or where there are diving areas, or where the depth of the water is greater than five feet.
- **Emergency Sign: N.J.A.C. 8:26-5.3(a)6.** In addition to the emergency phone numbers posted by the emergency phone / communication device, the address of the bathing facility must also be posted.
- **Throwline: N.J.A.C. 8:26-5.3(a)7.** One or more throwlines are needed. They must be long enough to reach the other end of the pool.
- **Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Requirement: N.J.A.C. 8:26-5.3(b)8.** Automated external defibrillators (AEDs) needed at all lifeguarded pools.
- **Updated Bather Rules Sign: N.J.A.C. 8:26-5.4(a)4.** Minor change to the 4th sentence → “All children in diapers must wear diapers specially designed for immersion in water (such as swimming diapers). Do not wash out soiled diapers in the bathing water”.
- **Policy for Water Toys: N.J.A.C. 8:26-5.4(b).** Policies and procedures are now required for water toys and floating devices. You must include this in the ‘Aquatics Facility Plan’ (Formerly called the aquatic supervision plan).
- **Updated Spa Sign: N.J.A.C. 8:26-5.8 (d).** There is a minor change to the spa sign. Third sentence down → “Do not use this hot tub or spa while under the influence of alcohol or drugs”.

Please complete the checklist and submit it to our department within **30** days of receiving this letter. Checklist(s) should be mailed to address on bottom of Page 1 or faxed to 609-645-5923. A copy of the checklist can also be found at www.atlantic-county.org/environmental-health/topics.asp?topicID=221 If you have any questions regarding the revised New Jersey Recreational Bathing code, I can be reached at 609 645-5971 extension 4379. Have a safe and healthy 2018 bathing season!

Very truly yours,



Chris Chinnici
Principal REHS

c: Patricia Diamond, Health Officer
Patrick Dillon, Environmental Health Coordinator