



COVID-19 Pool Guidance

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The following Pool Guidance will enable managers to make decisions to reopen pools and safely protect participants.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that pools are at low risk for COVID-19 due to the chlorination and sanitizing of the pool water. However, there still remains a significant risk of contracting COVID-19 if social distancing and sanitizing are inadequate. On May 12, 2020, the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) released [Guidelines for the Hotel Industry](#) with regards to allowing use of swimming pools to reopen for hotel guests.

Business entities that plan to reopen their pools should develop a “reopening plan” that include the following:

Disinfection Plan

- Create a written disinfection plan that identifies frequently touched surfaces, a schedule, and a person to complete disinfection tasks
- Use an EPA approved disinfectant on commonly touched surfaces, including but not limited to: o Pool area- gate, latch, tables, chairs, drinking fountain, pool handrails, and countertops o Shared restrooms/locker rooms - door handles, light switches, faucets, latches and dispensers

Hand Hygiene and Physical Distancing Protocols

- Post signage that reads:
 - Six feet separation is required between households
 - Wash their hands frequently with soap and water
 - Cover coughs and sneezes
 - Do not enter the pool area if you are experiencing symptoms of illness including a fever of 100°F or above, sore throat, runny nose, chills, not feeling well, sneezing, coughing, abdominal pain, or loss of sense of smell/taste.
- Provide or ask the participants to bring hand sanitizer.
- Frequently check shared restrooms/locker rooms to ensure they are stocked with hand soap and paper towels
- If pool lanes are in place then the swimmers should limit themselves to two people to a lane if not part of a supervised class or training event. Swim teams or other controlled events/practices may be able to maintain physical distancing with more than two people per lane.
- If a group class is held then the maximum number of participants, including the instructor, is ten. Implement scheduled time slots to control the flow of participants and prevent exceeding the maximal allowed.





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- Lounge chairs and/or tables should be properly distanced. If they cannot be distanced, they should be secured and stored.
- Participants should wear a cloth face covering when traveling through common areas where it may not be possible to maintain physical distancing, including to and from the pool and shared restrooms/locker rooms.

Additional Information

- [CDC Considerations for Public Pools, Hot Tubs, and Water Playgrounds During COVID-19](#)
- [California Department of Public Health COVID-19 INDUSTRY GUIDANCE: Hotels and Lodging](#)
- [Madera County Department of Public Health COVID Website](#)

If you have questions about your pool plan and need help determining if it's allowable, please contact us by completing our [Community Feedback Form](#).

