

# GRAYSON COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

## PLAN REVIEW FOR CLASS C PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS AND SPAS

NAME OF BUSINESS \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

OWNER/CONTRACTOR \_\_\_\_\_

BUSINESS PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_

DATE CONSTRUCTION/REMODELING TO BEGIN \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWED BY \_\_\_\_\_ REVIEW FEE \$150.00

Whenever a swimming pool, spa or water slide is constructed or extensively remodeled, properly prepared plans and specifications for such construction, remodeling or conversion shall be submitted for review and approval before construction, remodeling or conversion is begun. The plans and specifications shall indicate the proposed layout, arrangement, mechanical plans and construction materials of the pool, spa or water slide area(s) and the type and model of proposed fixed equipment and facilities. A duly authorized representative shall approve the plans and specifications if they meet the requirements of the health-related ordinances and construction standard regulations of the Texas Department of Health. A fee may be charged for this service.

The attached requirements represent minimal health code requirements but are not to be considered as totally inclusive of all requirements. Compliance with the Standards for Swimming Pools & Spas (Texas Dept. of State Health Services) shall be required. Also, local requirements must be met before a Health Permit is issued for operation. Any alteration of the plans may result in non-compliance with Health Department Codes, and should be first discussed with this office.

PLAN REVIEWER'S COMMENTS:

**APPROVED**

Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Plan Reviewer: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ REV.11/21

## PLAN REVIEW & PERMITTING REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS C PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS & SPAS

### A. DEFINITION.

"Pool" means any man-made permanently installed or non-potable structure, basin, chamber or tank containing an artificial body of water that is maintained or used expressly for public recreation, swimming, diving, aquatic sports, or other aquatic activity. Public pools include but are not limited to activity pools, catch pools, lazy or leisure river pools, wave action pools, vortex pools, therapy pools, and wading pools. A public pool maybe publically or privately owned and may be operated by an owner, lessee, operator, licensee or concessionaire. A fee for use may or not be charged. The term does not include a residential pool, artificial swimming lagoon, flotation system or chamber, or a body of water that continuously recirculates water from a spring.

### B. REFERENCES.

1. Texas Department of State Health Service's "Standards for Public Swimming Pools & Spas":  
<https://dshs.texas.gov/poolspa/laws-rules.aspx>
2. Texas Health and Safety Code, §341.064
3. Texas Health and Safety Code §341.002
4. Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 757: <https://statutes.capitol.texas.gov/Docs/HS/htm/HS.757.htm>

### C. SUBMISSION OF PLANS.

- \_\_\_ One set of properly prepared plans and specifications drawn to scale (1 inch = 1 foot), must be submitted to the Health Department.  
Health Department comments will be made on this Plan Review form and provided to the applicant. The Health Department reviewer may be contacted at 903-893-0131 x 1322.
- \_\_\_ Construction of a Class C pool and/or spa must be designed by a licensed engineer if the pool or spa has a diving board, climbing wall, slide, movable bottom, interactive water feature or fountain, or any aquatic play feature, or is a therapeutic pool/spa, or a surf pool or wave pool.

### D. TIME LIMITATIONS ON CONSTRUCTION/REMODELING.

- \_\_\_ Remodeling or new construction must begin and end in accordance with the time limits of the project's Building Permit.
- \_\_\_ If the proposed remodeling or new construction is not initiated or completed and approved by the former departments before the expiration of the project's Building Permit, plans must be resubmitted with the then-existing plan review fee.

### E. INSPECTIONS OF FACILITIES BY HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

- \_\_\_ Contact the plan reviewer at 903-893-0131 x \_\_\_\_\_ to schedule a preliminary inspection at least 7 days before construction is completed.
- \_\_\_ Contact the plan reviewer to schedule a final inspection before opening the facility for business.

### F. ALTERATION(S) TO PLANS.

- \_\_\_ Before any alterations are made to these submitted plans, contact the plan reviewer.

### G. POOL DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION.

- \_\_\_ The materials and structural design of the pool shall be in accordance with the International Building Code promulgated by the International Cod Council and in effect at the time of construction, as applicable in accordance with the standards defined in TAC§ 265.184(d)(2).
- \_\_\_ Pools and spas shall be constructed of non-toxic, durable, and sound materials. The materials need to be non-toxic to humans and the environment, impervious and enduring, will withstand design stresses, and will provide a watertight structure with a smooth and easily cleanable surface without cracks, or joints, excluding structural joints, or that will provide a watertight structure to which a smooth, easily cleaned surface or finish is applied or attached.
- \_\_\_ Material surfaces that come in contact with the user shall be finished, so that they do not constitute a cutting, pinching, or puncturing or abrasion hazard under casual contact and intended use.
- \_\_\_ Earth material shall not be permitted as an interior finish in a pool or spa.
- \_\_\_ Clean sand or similar material is used in a beach environment shall only be used over an impervious surface, shall be designed to perform in such an environment, and shall be controlled so as not to adversely affect the proper circulation, filtration, treatment system, maintenance, safety, sanitation, and operation of the pool or spa. When sand or similar material is used, positive upflow circulation through the sand shall be provided as necessary to ensure sanitary conditions are maintained at all times.
- \_\_\_ Interior color of pools and spas shall not obscure the existence or presence of objects or surfaces within the pool or spa. Interior surfaces and finishes shall be at least 6.5 on the Munsell color value scale.
- \_\_\_ A hydrostatic relief valve, plug, or a more extensive hydrostatic system shall be installed to prevent ground water pressure from displacing or otherwise damaging a pool or spa.

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- The interior surface footing shall be slip-resistant. The roughness or irregularity of such surfaces shall not cause injury to feet during normal use.
- The design shall comply with the applicable requirements for persons with disabilities under federal, state, and local fair housing and disability access laws.
- Pools and spas shall be constructed without protrusions, extensions, means of entanglement, or other obstructions in a pool or spa that may cause entrapment or injury of the user or interfere with proper operation.
- For all pools and spas designed by a licensed engineer, construction tolerances shall be in accordance with Figure 25 TAC §265.184(n)(2).
- Maximum number of users in Class C pools and spas are set forth in Figure 25 TAC §265.184(o)(2); the maximum number of users may be lowered but must not exceed the number that is determined in accordance with Figure 25 TAC §265.184(o)(2). The pool and spa equipment including the circulation system, deck area, and any other equipment or utility used to maintain the pool or spa shall be based upon the maximum number of users.
- Maximum number of users in waterslide landing pools, surf pools, at any given time shall be established by the manufacture.
- Floor slopes: shall drain and be uniform within the different activity areas of the pool.
  - The slope of the floor in water less than 5 feet shall not exceed 1 foot in 10 feet to the point of the first slope change.
  - The slope of the floor in water five feet deep or more shall not exceed one foot in three feet.
  - The slope of the floor may vary in limited areas where access for persons with disabilities has been provided.
  - The slope of the floor of a spa shall not exceed 1:12. Where multilevel floors are provided, the change in depth shall be indicated.
- Vanishing edge: the vanishing edge overflow trough, basin, or capture drain is not a skimmer and does not replace the number of required skimmers in pools or spas. A vanishing edge in a pool or spa shall:
  - not exceed more than 50% of the entire perimeter of the pool or of the spa unless the entire pool or spa is surrounded by a deck.
  - not be required to have skimmers when 100% of the entire pool or spa is a vanishing edge.
  - not have any part of the vanishing edge at a distance exceeding 1 feet from the deck.
  - be designed to overflow into a trough, basin, or capture drain.
- Underwater seats and benches: an underwater seats and benches shall:
  - have the horizontal surface not greater than 20 inches below the design water level.
  - have an unobstructed seating surface a minimum of 10 inches in depth and not less than 24 inches in width.
  - be located fully outside of the diving water envelope in a pool with diving equipment.
  - be visually set apart with a permanent solid or broken stripe 1-inch wide on the top surface along the leading edge of the bench and in contrasting color to the surface.
  - have a slip-resistant surface.
  - not be used as a required entry and exit access.
- Wading pools: wading pools including a wading pool containing a PIWF or fountain shall have a maximum water depth of 18 inches. Wading pools and wading pools containing a PIWF shall:
  - be separate and physically set apart from shallow water areas by at least 15 feet, measured by straight line distance or by a pool yard enclosure meeting the requirements in TAC §265.203 relating to Pool Yard and Spa Yard Enclosures.
  - be separate and physically set apart from deep water areas by at least 35 feet, measured by straight line distance or by a pool yard enclosure meeting the requirements in TAC §265.203.
  - maintain clear visibility through the barrier.
  - areas where the water depth at the edge of the pool exceeds 9 inches shall be considered non entry areas and the following shall apply:
    - At the perimeter wall of the wading pool, the vertical distance, from the deck or walkway to the bottom of the wading pool or to the perimeter seating bench underwater, shall not be greater than 18 inches. The vertical distance from the bottom of the pool to the deck or walk, may be reduced and brought to zero at the shallowest point.
    - The slope of zero level deck entries shall not exceed 1 foot in 12 feet.
    - Floors of wading pools shall be uniform, sloped to drain with a maximum slope of 1 foot in 12 feet and shall be slip-resistant.
  - Wading pools constructed or renovated on or after the effective date of this subchapter shall not have submerged suction outlets. Skimmers or overflow gutters shall be installed and shall accommodate 100% of the circulation system flow rate.

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### H. DECK DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION.

- Concrete decks: concrete that is used as deck material shall be installed in accordance with ACI Standard 302.1R-15.
- Decks other than concrete decks: decks other than concrete decks, shall be designed and installed in accordance with good public health engineering practices.
- Decks, ramps, coping, and steps shall be slip-resistant.
- All pools and spa decks shall have a minimum width of 6 feet.
- Decks shall be sloped to effectively drain to perimeter areas or to deck drains. Deck slopes shall meet the requirements in Figure 25 TAC §265.185(f)(9).
- Step risers for decks at pools and spas shall be uniform and have a height not less than 3-3/4 inches and not greater than 7-12 inches. The tread distance from front to back shall be not less than 11 inches. If the pool or spa has 3 or more risers, a handrail must be provided.
- Loose plant material or bedding, including planters shall not be permitted on pool or spa decks.
- All deck surfacings shall be free of open joints or projections that would pose a stubbing hazard.

### I. ISLANDS.

- An island not more than 18 inches in width along the entire length of the island and not designed for walking on, shall have no stairs, ladders or bridges to the island that can be accessed by users.
- An island designed to be walked on by lifeguards shall be a minimum of 18 inches in width along the entire length of the island.
- An island not designed or intended for walking on by pool or spa users shall have signs stating "NO ENTRY" in letters minimum of 2 inches in height.
- An island designed for pool and spa users shall be accessible by bridge, ramp, ladder or stairway from the pool or spa.
- All bridges spanning a pool or spa, or any other structure not intended for interactive play that span a pool or spa, shall have a minimum clearance of 7 feet from the bottom of the pool and 4 feet above the water surface to any bridge or any structure overhead. All bridges must have a minimum 42 inch high barrier on both sides of the bridge or ramp.
- An island shall have a demarcation tile line on the perimeter of the island that is a minimum of 4 inches in height and shall be positioned in the top 4-1/2 inches of the island wall just under the coping.

### J. CIRCULATION

- Filtering systems for wading pools and spas shall have separate and independent filtering systems.
- Capacity of pool/spa/slide in gallons: \_\_\_\_\_.
- Surface area of pool/spa/basin in square feet: \_\_\_\_\_.
- Water turnover rate is equal to 1.5 times the average depth of the pool in feet and not exceed 6 hours; 0.5 hours for spas; 1 hour for wading pools (see Figure: 25 TAC §265.190(c)(1) for all other pools).
- Plastic pipe and fittings used in circulation systems shall be able to withstand the design operating pressures and conditions of the pool or spa. Plastic pipe shall be listed and labeled in compliance with NSF 14 and one of the standards listed in Figure 25 TAC §265.190(i).
- Pressure and Vacuum gauges shall have:
  - a pump suction gauge installed according to manufacturer's instructions and located on the suction side of the pump.
  - a filter inlet pressure gauge installed at the point of greatest pressure.
  - a filter outlet gauge
  - a flow measuring device for pools and spas certified, listed and labeled to NSF Standard 50, NSF Standard 60, or NSF Standard 61 located to show the rate of flow through the filter. Shall indicate GPM.
- Exposed piping shall be labeled to identify the piping function and direction of flow.
- Must have a readable schematic of the entire recirculation system and be openly displayed in the mechanical room or available to maintenance and inspection personnel.

### K. FILTERS

- All pool and spa filters and filter media, including alternative filter media, shall be certified, listed, and labeled to NSF/ANSI 50. Filters shall use the appropriate filter media within size specifications as recommended by the filter manufacturer and NSF/ANSI 50.
- Filter shall have a flow rating equal to or greater than the design flow rate of the circulation system. Filters shall be designed and installed so that filtration surfaces can be inspected and serviced.
- For pressure-type filters a means shall be provided to allow the release of internal pressure (shall have one or more lids that provide a slow, safe release of pressure as part of the design and shall have a manual air release in addition to an automatic release).
  - A statement shall be posted in letters at least ½ in height, in a conspicuous location, and within the areas of the air release:

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“DO NOT START THE SYSTEM AFTER MAINTENANCE WITHOUT FIRST PROPERLY REASSEMBLING THE FILTER AND SEPARATION TANK AND OPENING ALL AIR RELEASE VALVES.”

- \_\_\_ A separation tank used in conjunction with a filter tank, shall have a manual method of air release or a lid that provides for a slow, safe release of pressure as it is opened.
- \_\_\_ Filter and separation tank instructions shall have operation and maintenance instructions permanently installed on the filter or separation tank.
- \_\_\_ Observable waste discharge: pools and spa filters shall be provided with a readily observable free fall or sight glass installed on the waste discharge line in order that the filter washing progress may be observed. Sight glasses must be readily removable for cleaning.

### L. PUMPS AND MOTORS

- \_\_\_ A pump shall be provided for circulation of the pool and spa water. The pump shall be capable of providing the flow required for filtering the pool or spa water and filter cleaning, if applicable, against the total dynamic head developed by the complete system.
- \_\_\_ A cleanable strainer, skimmer basket, or screen shall be provided for pools and spas, upstream or as an integral part of circulation pumps, to remove solids, debris, hair and lint on pressure filter systems.
- \_\_\_ Isolation valves (shutoff valves) shall be installed on the suction side and discharge sides of pumps that are below the waterline.

### M. SUCTION OUTLET SYSTEMS AND RETURN INLETS

- \_\_\_ Suction outlet system shall be designed to protect against suction entrapment, evisceration, and hair entanglement or entrapment hazard in accordance with ANSI/APSP-16 (skimmers are not considered to be a suction outlet).
- \_\_\_ A pool or spa shall have dual or three or more suction outlets that are designed, constructed, manufactured, and installed in accordance with ANSI/APSP/ICC. A single, fully submerged suction outlet is not allowed.
  - \_\_\_ The distance between a dual VGBA-compliant suction outlet, shall be no less than 3 feet.
  - \_\_\_ No means of isolating suction inlet that serves two or more suction outlets; may have a valve to shut off the flow to the pump.
- \_\_\_ Vacuum outlets in pools and spas shall comply with IAPMO SPS 4 and be provided with a cover that automatically closes and automatically latches and cannot be opened by pool and spa users. The vacuum outlet cover must be installed according to manufacturer's instructions and be no greater than 12 inches below the water level. The vacuum piping shall be equipped with a valve to remain in the closed position when not in use. Vacuum outlets in skimmers are not required to have a separate cover. If the vacuum outlet cannot be equipped with an automatic closure and latch, the vacuum outlet shall be permanently sealed.
- \_\_\_ Skimmer equalizer lines shall not be installed.
- \_\_\_ A pool or spa shall have return fittings that are provided and arranged to facilitate uniform circulation of water and maintain a uniform sanitizer residual and pH throughout the entire pool. A pool or spa shall have:
  - \_\_\_ A pool shall have a minimum of one return inlet for every 300 square feet of pool surface area.  
**Number of inlets required: \_\_\_\_\_**
  - \_\_\_ Floor inlets shall be flush with the floor of the pool or spa.
  - \_\_\_ Wall return inlets that must not project more than 1 inch beyond the pool or spall wall surface, and must be submerged at least 12 inches below the design water level.
- \_\_\_ Surface skimming system:
  - \_\_\_ Listed and labeled in accordance with NSF 50.
  - \_\_\_ In pools, one skimmer shall be provided for every 500 square feet. **Number required: \_\_\_\_\_**
  - \_\_\_ In spas, one skimmer shall be provided for every 150 square feet. **Number required: \_\_\_\_\_**
  - \_\_\_ Skimmer covers located on a walking surface shall be securely seated, slip-resistant, of sufficient strength to withstand normal use, and not constitute a tripping hazard.

### N. ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS

Must meet:

- (1) The NEC adopted by TDLR at the time of construction or renovation of the pool or spa; or
- (2) The local electrical code to the extent the local electrical code is more restrictive than the NEC; and
- (3) Electrical requirements for aquatic facilities in accordance with NFPA 70.

- \_\_\_ A licensed electrician shall install, maintain, and repair, and replace any electrical system in regards to the pool or spa.
- \_\_\_ Electrical equipment for pools and spas shall be approved and listed for use in pools and spas by a nationally recognized electrical testing laboratory.
- \_\_\_ Ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) are required for all electrical outlets in the pool or spa yard and in dressing or sanitary facilities serving a pool or spa.

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- Each electrical line to an underwater light in a pool or spa shall be protected with a GFCI located in the circuit breaker for the light at the breaker box or in an outlet through which the power for the light passes.
- GFCI compliance with the NEC; pumps shall be both internally and externally grounded.
- Plastic coated or epoxy coated rebar in pools or spas are prohibited.
- Heaters: Shall follow requirements listed in TAC §265.197.

### O. LIGHTING REQUIREMENTS

- Artificial lighting shall be provided when a pool or spa is open for use during periods of low natural illumination. At a minimum artificial lighting shall be provided 30 minutes before sunrise and 30 minutes after sunset or until the pool is closed.
- The bottom of the pool, along with all suction outlets must be visible during all hours of operation, so that a lifeguard, or other persons standing on the deck or adjacent to the pool edge can see if a person is lying on the bottom of the pool or spa.
  - Lighting levels for:
    - Outdoor pools: Not less than 10 lumens per square foot at the pool water surface.
    - Indoor pools: Not less than 30 lumens per square foot at the pool water surface.
    - Deck Area: Not less than 10 lumens per square foot at the walking surface of the deck.
- Underwater lighting: Underwater lighting shall provide not less than 8 lumens per square foot at the pool surface area (can be excluded in some instances, see TAC §265.196(f)).
- Emergency illumination: Pools, spas, pool yards that operate during periods of low illumination shall be provided with emergency lighting that will automatically turn on to permit evacuation of the pool and securing of the area in the event of power failure.
- Shall be arranged to provide initial illumination that is not less than 0.1 lumen per square foot measure at any point on the water surface and at any point on the walking surface of the deck, and not less than an average of 1 lumen.

### P. WATER SUPPLY

- Shall be from a public water supply or from a water well that complies with section TAC §265.198(d).
- Be protected against backflow and back siphonage.
- At least one water fountain or other source of drinking water such as bottled water, shall be provided and available for pool and spa users and available at all times while pool is open for use. (A faucet or sink does not satisfy the requirements for providing drinking water. No glass; water does not have to be chilled; water is not required to be located in the pool or spa yard (if not, a sign that is visible to users that informs users of the location of the drinking water in 1 inch lettering).

### Q. WASTE WATER

- Filter backwash, cartridge waste water, and drainage water that is not reused in the pool or spa shall be discharged or disposed in accordance with the requirements of the TCEQ or local regulatory authority.
- No direct hard connection shall be made between the pool or spa, the drains, the chemical treatment equipment, or the system of piping and the sanitary sewer system, septic system, or other wastewater disposal system.
- Backwash water and draining water shall be discharged through an air gap.

### R. DISINFECTANT EQUIPMENT AND CHEMICAL FEEDERS

- Water shall be continuously disinfected by a disinfectant agent, chlorine or bromine, with a residual that can be easily measured. Automated controllers that adjust chemical feed based on demand or manually, or remotely managed controllers for pool and spa disinfection and pH control shall be installed. The feed systems shall have the capacity to maintain 5ppm in outdoor pools and spas, and 3ppm chlorine in indoor pools and spas (or equivalent bromine level).
- Chlorine gas is prohibited.
- Chemicals shall be stored in a dry room and protected against flooding or wetting from floors, walls and ceiling; and stored so that pool and spa users do not have access to the chemicals.
- Chemical feeders: shall meet NSF Standard 50.
  - be installed so that the solution is introduced downstream from the filter and heater.
  - incorporate failure-proof features so that the chemical cannot feed into the pool or spa, piping system, or water supply system, or yard if equipment or power fails.

### S. SAFETY FEATURES AND SIGNS

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- Handholds shall follow: TAC §265.201(a),(b),(c),(d) if present.
- Float lines shall be present if the pool is over 5 feet deep and follow: TAC §265.201(e)(3).
  - Activity pool: shall have a 4-inch minimum width row of floor tile or other permanent method just above the 5 foot water depth.
- Depth Markings for **pools** shall be permanent, not less than 4 inches in height, and clearly marked in color contrasting to the background, and located on deck and vertical wall of the pool at:
  - the minimum and maximum water depths
  - on both sides and at each end of the pool
  - at all points of slope change.
  - be installed at water depth increments not to exceed 2 feet and shall be spaced at intervals not to exceed 25 feet.
  - have units of measurements that either spell out "feet" or "inches" or abbreviated "FT", "IN," or fractions of a foot (can also use "meters" or abbreviated as "M")
  - markers shall be positioned in the top 4-1/2 inches of the pool wall just under the coping and be positioned to be read by a user in the pool.
  - markers on decks shall be slip-resistant, placed within 18 inches of the water's edge, and positioned to be read while standing on the deck facing the water.
  - shall not be placed on the deck above entry/exits including steps, ladders, recessed treads, water lounges, and beach entries.
  - vanishing edge and overflow gutter pools depth markings shall follow TAC §265.201(f)(6).
- Depth markings for **spas** shall be permanent, not less than 4 inches in height, and clearly marked in color contrasting to the background, and located on deck and vertical wall of spa:
  - markers on the vertical wall shall be positioned in the top 4-1/2 inches of the spa wall and be positioned to be read by a user while in the spa.
  - There shall not be less than two depth markers for each spa, regardless of the spa size and shape.
  - shall be spaced at not more than 25-foot intervals and shall be uniformly located around the perimeter of the spa.
  - deck depth makers shall be positioned to be read while standing on the deck and shall be slip-resistant.
  - have units of measurements that either spell out "feet" or "inches" or abbreviated "FT", "IN," or fractions of a foot (can also use "meters" or abbreviated as "M")
- Deck "NO DIVING" and the international symbol for no diving markers for pool shall be permanent and clearly marked on the deck with contrasting colors and letters at least 4 inches high. The warning shall be placed every 25 feet, around the pool where the water is 5 feet or less. At least two warnings placed at the extremes ends of the minimum depth and at the extreme end of the maximum depth, and shall be within 18 inches of the water's edge and positioned to be read while standing on the deck facing the water. If a permanent structure above the pool deck is within 5 feet of the water's surface, a warning and an international no diving symbol must be in contrasting colors 4 inches in height, and permanently affixed to the structure. Warnings are not required on the interior walls of a pool or spa. Deck warnings are not required for a spa.
- Signs for Pools:
  - Must be placed in the pool yard
  - Shall be durable for the weather conditions
  - Signs shall have a distinct border
  - 4 inch letter and symbol signs required:
    - "WARNING-NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY"
    - "NO DIVING" and International no diving symbol
    - "IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, DIAL 911"
  - Minimum 1 inch letter and symbol sign:
    - Precise Location of the Pool on or with the Emergency Phone
    - Hours of Operation
  - Minimum 2 inch letter and symbol sign:
    - Maximum User Load Limit
    - "PETS IN THE POOL ARE PROHIBITED"
    - "DO NOT SWIM IF YOU HAVE BEEN ILL WITH DIARRHEA WITHIN THE PAST 2 WEEKS"
    - "CHANGING DIAPERS WITHIN 6 FEET OF THE POOL IS PROHIBITED"
    - "GLASS ITEMS NOT ALLOWED IN THE POOL YARD"
    - "PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 14 MUST NOT BE IN THE POOL WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION"
    - "EXTENDED BREATH HOLDING ACTIVITIES ARE DANGEROUS AND PROHIBITED"
- Ring buoy, throw rope, and reaching pole. A pool shall have at least one ring buoy with throwing rope and a reaching pole for every 2000 square feet of pool surface area up to 6000 square feet of surface feet. If the pool has over 6000 square feet of surface area an additional ring buoy, throw rope, and reaching pole shall be provided for each additional 4000 square feet of surface area or fraction thereof. The reaching poles and ring buoys with rope shall be visible and readily accessible from all areas of the pool yard.

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- Ring buoy: The throwing rope shall be 1/4-inch to 3/8-inch diameter with a length at least two-thirds the maximum width of the pool
- Reaching Pole shall be light, strong, non-telescoping, and at least 12 feet long. The pole shall be constructed of fiberglass or other material that does not conduct electricity and shall have a body hook or shepherd's hook crook with blunted ends attached.
- A pool or spa must have a minimum of one emergency telephone, emergency monitoring contact device, or alternative communication system that is capable of immediately summoning emergency services and that is readily accessible, within 200 feet of the water. (Can be a cellular device if it is dedicated for use at the pool or spa, mounted in the pool or spa yard for public use and labeled as the emergency phone; it has to be activated by a service provider and provided with a permanent power supply).
  - shall be visible, and have no obstruction to access
  - shall not be answered by an on-site office.
  - telephone shall be capable of making calls to 911 dispatch or to an emergency service.

### T. ENCLOSURE

- All pool yards and spa yards shall be completely enclosed by a fence, wall, or equivalent barrier.
- Enclosure for pools and spas are subject to Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 757 **only** for apartment complexes, condominiums, and property owners association:
  - Height must be 48 inches as measured from the ground on the side away from the pool.
  - Openings under the pool yard must not allow a 4 inch in diameter sphere to pass under.
  - If the pool yard is constructed with horizontal and vertical members and the tops of the horizontal members are at least 45 inches; the openings may not allow a sphere 4 inches in diameter to pass through.
  - If the pool yard is constructed with horizontal and vertical members and the tops of the horizontal members are less than 45 inches; the openings may not allow a sphere 1-3/4 inches in diameter to pass through.
  - Chain link fencing material is prohibited.
  - Decorative designs or cutouts on or in the pool yard enclosure may not contain any openings greater than 1-3/4 inches in any direction.
  - Permanent equipment or structures may not be constructed or placed in a manner that makes them readily available for climbing over the pool yard enclosure.
  - Gates shall:
    - have a self-closing and self-latching device
    - have hardware enabling it to be locked, at the option of whoever controls the gate
    - open outward away from the pool yard
    - have latches that are installed at least 60 inches above the ground; except when the latch is installed on the pool yard side of the gate only and is at least 3 inches below the top of the gate; and the gate or enclosure has no opening greater than one half inch in any direction within 18 inches from the latch, including the space between the gate and the gate post to which the gate latches.
    - have a gate latch may be located 42 inches or higher above the ground if a gate cannot be opened except by key, card, or combination on both sides of the gate.
  - Doors: a door, sliding glass door, or French door may not open directly into a pool yard.
  - Windows: may not be used as part of a pool yard enclosure unless each ground floor window in the wall is permanently closed and unable to be opened.
- All other** class C pools:
  - Minimum 48 inches as measured from the ground surface on the outside of the enclosure.
  - Openings under the pool yard shall not allow the passage of a 4 inch diameter sphere
  - Planters, light poles, and site furnishings shall not be permitted within 36 inches, measured horizontally, from the outside of the enclosure. And tree limbs must be kept trimmed to prevent children from climbing over the enclosure.
  - Chain link fencing material is prohibited.
  - The enclosure shall have no horizontal mid-rail and be designed and constructed so that it cannot be readily climbed. The distance between horizontal members of a fence that is 48 inches in height shall be no less than 45 inches.
  - Gates shall:
    - have self-closing, self-latching devices.
    - open outward away from pool or spa.
    - have hardware must be on the pool/spa side of the gate, be at least 3 ½ feet above the deck or walkway, and shall have no openings greater than ½ inch within 18 inches of the door or gate opening hardware.
    - be capable of being locked.
  - Doors: not allowed as part of an enclosure unless:
    - the doors or gates between the building and pool yard or spa yard are for entry into a storage room, restroom,



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- shower room, dressing room, or mechanical room adjacent to the pool or spa
- the room does not have any door or gate openings to the outside of the pool yard or spa yard enclosure
- the pool or spa yard is indoor. Elevator doors are not allowed to be part of the enclosure.
- Windows: if capable of being opened are not allowed as part of a pool or spa enclosure unless those windows are above the required enclosure height as measured from the ground level outside of the pool enclosure.

### U. DRESSING AND SANITARY FACILITIES

- Required at all Class C pools:
  - Separate dressing and sanitary facilities for men and women shall be provided and shall be well lit, drained, and ventilated.
  - Floors in dressing rooms and sanitary facilities shall have smooth, easy-to-clean, impervious-to-water, slip resistant surface.
  - Lavatory, shower, and toilet facilities shall be located to encourage use of the sanitary facilities by users of the pool or spa.
  - Cleansing showers, and lavatories shall be supplied with hot and cold running water. Heated water shall:
    - be controlled by an anti-scald device.
    - user access to water heaters and thermostatically controlled mixing valves for showers are prohibited.
    - each showerhead shall have a water flow of not less than 2 gallons per minute.
    - each showerhead, the heated shower water temperature shall be between 90°F and not more than 120° F.
  - Sanitary napkin receptacles shall be provided in each water closet for females and in the shower areas for female use.
  - Fixture Schedule for facilities with water surface areas less than 7500 square feet:
    - Water closet/toilets; one male, one female; toilet paper holders and toilet paper must be provided per each toilet.
    - Urinals; one male
    - Lavatories/sinks; one male, one female; with soap dispensers (no glass)
    - Cleansing Showers; one male, one female (not required at a HOA)
    - Rising Showers; one male, one female (can be tower showers or single showers without heated water, and be located on deck).
    - Baby changing table; one for each male or female sanitary facility.
    - Single-use hand drying towels or hand drying devices shall be provided.
- \*\*Apartments, hotels, condominiums, or motels are not required to have cleansing or rinsing showers, dressing rooms, toilets, urinals, hand drying towels unless the facility has a lavatory, baby changing table unless a lavatory with a faucet and soap are provided, a lavatory unless a faucet and soap are provided and there is proper wastewater disposal.

### V. ENTRIES

- Pools and spas shall have a minimum of two entry/exits, one at the deep end and one at the shallow end (ADA devices for entry to pools do not count).
- Entry/exit locations for specific pools (wave pools, activity pools, catch pools, leisure river, vortex pool, pool with PIWF or fountain, or surf pool) shall be in accordance with Figure 25 TAC §265.187(b).
- Distances between entry/exits in pools with water 24 inches or MORE in depth: A means of entry/exit in pools shall be provided and shall consist of stairs, a ladder, recessed treads, a swim out, ramp, or beach entry and shall be located no further than 75 feet of travel distance apart from any other entry/exit.
- All surfaces of entries (steps, ladders, and recessed treads) shall be slip-resistant surfaces.
- Entry/exits in shallow water 24 inches or LESS in depth, other than wading pools that have areas with water depths of 24 inches or less at the pool wall. These areas shall be considered to be providing their own natural mode for entry and exit.
- Stairs:
  - Step treads shall not be less than 24 inches at the leading edge. Each tread shall have an unobstructed surface area of not less than 240 square inches and an unobstructed horizontal depth of not less than 10 inches at the centerline.
  - The lowest tread shall not be less than 48 inches below the deck and shall be recessed in the pool wall.
  - Underwater steps shall have a horizontal solid or broken stripe at least 1 inch wide on the top surface along the front leading edge of each step that is plainly visible to a person on the deck and is in color contrasting to the background on which it is applied. The color shall be permanent in nature and shall be slip-resistant.
- Ladders:
  - Must be constructed of corrosion resistant materials and shall be anchored securely to the deck and bonded in accordance with the NEC.
  - Two handrails shall be provided for each ladder, one on each side of the ladder with a clear distance between ladder handrails of not less than 17 inches. And not greater than 24 inches.
  - Ladder treads shall have a uniform horizontal depth of not less than 2 inches. There shall be a uniform distance between ladder treads not less than 7 inches and not greater than 12 inches, and ladder treads shall be slip-resistant.
  - The top tread of a ladder shall be located not greater than 12 inches below the top of the deck or coping.
  - Wall clearance between the pool or spa wall and the ladder shall not be less than 3 inches and not greater than 6 inches.
- Beach Entry: Beach entries in pools that are not wave pools, surf pools, leisure rivers, vortex pools, activity pools, or PIWF shall not

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have a slope greater than 1:12, and must be slip-resistant up to water depths of 18 inches. Trench drains shall be used along beach entries at the waterline to facilitate surface skimming and may be flat or follow the slope of the entry.

### W. HANDRAILS

- Handrails are required for each set of stairs, steps, or foot holes in the pool/spa/slide.
- Handrails must be corrosion-resistant.
- Must be 34-38 inches above the ramp, or step surface as measured at the leading edge of the step or finished surface of the slope.
- The outside diameter or width of handrails shall be not less than 1-1/4 inch and not greater than 2 inches.

### X. VENTILATION

- Ventilation at indoor pools shall conform to ASHRAE 62-1989

### Y. DIVING AREAS, SLIDES, AND OTHER AQUATIC PLAY FEATURES

- Diving areas incorporated into the design of pools shall be the minimum State requirements in regards to design and structural stability. For details, see TAC §265.188.
- Slides, and other aquatic play features such as a climbing wall, floating amusement island, zip line, or anchored floats shall meet the minimum State Requirement's found in TAC §265.189.

### Z. CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR SPAS

- Maximum water depth shall be 4 feet as measured from the design water level (exercise spas max depth cannot exceed 6ft 6in):
  - Where multilevel seating is provided, the maximum water depth of any seat or sitting bench shall be 28 inches
  - Spa decks shall be a minimum of 6 feet wide, a continuous and unobstructed deck shall be provided a minimum of 50% around the spa perimeter and follow all sign requirements for safety.
- An emergency shutoff shall be provided to disconnect power to circulation, jet system pumps and air blowers:
  - It shall be accessible to users, located within sight of the spa and located not less than 5 feet, but not greater than 10 feet from the inside walls of the spa.
- Air induction system:
  - shall be installed in accordance with the NEC, and any federal, state, or local codes
  - if an air blower or other means of introducing air is provided, a manually operated timer switch located so as to require the exiting of the spa to reset shall be provided. Such a timer shall operate the spa blower and booster pump and shall automatically shut off the blower and booster pump off in 15 minutes or when manually switched to the off position.
- Spa Signs:
  - "WARNING – NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY" (4 inch letters)
  - Minimum 1 inch letters and symbols:
    - "DO NOT USE THE SPA IF THE WATER TEMPERATURE IS ABOVE 104 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT"
    - Maximum user load
  - Minimum 2 inch letters and symbols:
    - Location of the nearest emergency phone
    - EMERGENCY SPA SHUTOFF
    - "DO NOT SWIM IF YOU HAVE BEEN ILL WITH DIARRHEA WITHING THE PAST 2 WEEKS"
    - "PERSONS UNDER THE AGE OF 14 MUST NOT BE IN THE SPA WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION"
    - "PETS IN THE SPA ARE PROHIBITED"

Revised 11/16/2021