

## **Addendum: New Jersey COVID 19 Outdoor Pool/Lake Standards**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued guidance on operating and managing public pools, hot tubs, and aquatic recreation attractions, which include private community lakes. The Department of Health recommends that all pool/lake facilities review the CDC guidelines to assist with decision making. New standards include securing staff, staff training, and other overall measures implementing the NJ COVID 19 health and safety standards. Pool/lake facilities must comply with these standards.

### **Approval to operate according to the Public Recreational Bathing (PRB) rule, N.J.A.C. 8:26-1 et seq.**

- A. Approval to operate by the local health authority (LHA) is required prior to opening
- B. The preoperational assessment checklist (N.J.A.C. 8:26-Appendix E) should be submitted to the LHA in lieu of an LHA on-site inspection (LHA may utilize the form to alleviate the stress on the LHA responding to contact tracing responsibilities).
- C. Incorporated into the Aquatics Facility Plan (AFP) required by PRB rule, the pool/lake facility must develop and implement a COVID 19 Pool Operation Prevention Plan (CPOPP) that complies with this Guidance pursuant to Executive Order No. 153 (2020).
- D. Together the AFP and CPOPP must be submitted to the LHA.

### **Staffing and Facility Operations (? Staffing company and the Association?)**

Facilities shall hire adequate staff and develop and implement protocols for staff training and lake operations, including but not limited to:

- A. Train and equip the following personnel on COVID 19 awareness, cleaning and sanitizing to perform assigned duties in a manner that promotes the safety of the public and staff.
- B. Implement an ambassador role to monitor and encourage social distancing of bathers on the beach.
- C. COVID contact person
- D. Establish a protocol for personal protective equipment (PPE) and distribution.
- E. Document COVID awareness training and risk reduction strategies for all personnel.
- F. Develop a police notification policy (reporting procedures in the event of noncompliance with any activities required by Executive Order No. 153 (2020)).
- G. Implement a policy for screening staff entering the facility that includes, but is not limited to:
  - a. Temperature checks of staff entering the beach (persons that have a fever of 100.4 degrees or above or other signs of COVID 19 illness should

be not admitted to the facilities. Staff should be on alert for signs of illness and to stay home when they are sick).

- b. Screening members for fever or signs of COVID 19 illness at entry of the lake

#### H. Admittance and Access to the Facility

- a. Designate, limit, and stagger access to entry and exit points to the beach area to avoid congregation.
- b. Post signage that members should be on alert for signs of illness and to stay home when they have symptoms of COVID 19 or are otherwise sick.
- c. Try to offer cash-less options when possible to limit physical interactions.
- d. Use barriers/plexi glass at snack stands and ask members to wear a mask when coming up to the snack stand.
- e. Implement non-discriminatory capacity restrictions (reduce capacity to 50%, maintain six feet for social distancing excluding immediate family members, caretakers, household members or romantic partners.
- f. Measures to implement capacity restrictions may include reservations/passes, limiting hours, and/or demarcating/separating areas on the beach.
- g. Maintain a sign in sheet for all staff and members to facilitate potential contact tracing efforts.

### **I. Infection Control Strategies**

All facilities shall implement the following prevention and mitigation strategies to slow and limit COVID 19 exposure and spread:

- A. Designate COVID 19 Emergency Care Room
  - a. Facilities that can accommodate 500 bathers or more, before capacity reduction measures are implemented, must identify, locate and designate an emergency care room located outdoors with a protective covering, such as a canopy or other covering. The public recreational bathing rule requires an emergency care room to be utilized for the emergency care of injured/ill bathers.
  - b. Document emergency care space cleaning procedures consistent with the cleaning and disinfection procedures recommended by the NJ DOH.
  - c. Medical areas should be located outdoors.
- B. Management must cooperate with LHA staff in any communicable disease investigation and follow current Communicable Disease Service guidance for illness reporting <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/>.
- C. Establish procedures for safely isolating and transporting anyone showing signs and symptoms of COVID 19 consistent with CDC guidance.
- D. Develop and implement enhanced cleaning and disinfection procedures using Environment Protection Agency (EPA) approved disinfectants and following CDC guidance that includes frequent cleaning and disinfecting of high traffic areas

such as restrooms, outdoor showers, etc and major touch points. The procedures must include, at a minimum, provide sanitation stations and ensure sufficient quantities of cleaning supplies, such as soap and surface disinfectants, are available. Leave cleaning products in bathrooms.

- E. Require frequent sanitization of any areas opened to the public, including, at minimum, routine cleaning and disinfecting of frequently touched surfaces several times daily and shared objects after each use such as sales booths, lifeguard stands, life jackets, lifesaving equipment, railings, towel decks, faucets, handles, door knobs, medical area supplies and equipment, in spaces that are accessible to staff, the public, or other individuals.
- F. Prohibit sharing of furniture and equipment provided to patrons for use by the pool/lake facility, such as lounge chairs, umbrellas, towels, and other equipment, except among immediate family members, caretakers, household members, or romantic partners. Clean and disinfect after each use pursuant to the procedures required herein. Procedures are to sanitize with bleach or alcohol and let dry for three minutes.
- G. Allow patrons to use their own water play equipment, such as goggles, masks, kickboards, pool noodles, tubes, toys, etc. No sharing of the above and the lake associations' equipment is NOT to be rented or used by patrons at this time.

## **Restrooms**

All facilities must implement the following policies in all restrooms, shower areas, locker rooms.

- A. Require foot coverings within the restrooms
- B. Designate personnel to oversee the above and/or post signage.
- C. Frequently disinfect outdoor shower/hose.

## **Face Masks, Gloves, and Social Distancing Strategies**

### **A. Face Masks and Gloves**

- a. Staff and patrons are encouraged to wear a cloth face covering while not in the lake when social distancing six feet apart cannot be maintained, unless doing so would inhibit the individual's health.
- b. Face coverings should NOT be allowed in the water due to increased risk of drowning
- c. Face coverings should NOT be put on children under age two because of the danger of suffocation.
- d. Lifeguards should NOT wear a face covering while on duty actively lifeguarding. It is encouraged that lifeguards wear a cloth face covering when they are not on duty actively lifeguarding and cannot maintain social distancing of six feet.

- e. Proper and frequent hand washing is required by staff. Gloves should be worn when handling or serving food to patrons but this does not apply to us.
- f. Lake facilities would supply their staff with cloth face coverings and gloves, in addition to basic PPE for isolation in the health area.

## **B. Social Distancing**

- a. Pool/Lake facilities must implement measures to ensure social distancing is maintained such as:
  - i. Encourage 6 feet social distancing while in the water, unless the individual needs assistance in order to swim, except immediate family members, caretakers, household members, or romantic partners
  - ii. Encourage 6 feet social distancing on the beach area, except immediate family members, caretakers, household members, or romantic partners
  - iii. Separating and spacing apart all benches, tables, chairs, blankets, etc to encourage social distancing
  - iv. Controlling crowd flow using visible markings, postings or signage
  - iv. Demarcating and post signs that denote six feet of spacing in all commonly used and other applicable areas of where people may form a line such as the bathroom, outdoor shower, and snack stand.

## **Communication Plan**

Pool/lake facilities must develop and implement an outreach plan that includes, but is not limited to, at minimum:

- A. Methods to ensure a continuous public outreach campaign such as highly visible signage, websites, and mobile applications to communicate restrictions, set expectations, and emphasize the importance of social distancing and hygiene such as our sign board at the entrance.
- B. Pool/lake facilities shall post signage indicating that: face coverings are strongly encouraged, face coverings are NOT to be worn in the water as it increases the risk of drowning, face coverings are NOT be be worn on children under age 2, hands should be washed frequently with soap and water scrubbing for 20 seconds, hand sanitizer that is at least 60% alcohol should be used if soap and water are not available, do not touch your face (especially eyes, nose or mouth) with unwashed hands, stay home if you are sick, practice social distancing and avoid large gatherings, which are indicated on our sign board and washing hands information is in the bathrooms and clubhouse.

- C. We would also send information via email, on the facebook page and on the Lions Head Lake webpage.

### **Food Services**

Food services shall remain limited to restrictions consistent with the Executive Orders issued in response to COVID 19 as required by Executive Order No. 153 (2020), and tables or other equipment which impede social distancing should be removed or restricted. We will have to separate picnic benches and then sanitize immediately after use. Or allow members to eat in their designated spots on the beach.

### **Emergency Evacuation Procedure**

Pool/lake facilities must revise the emergency evacuation procedure to ensure social distancing protocols allow for safe evacuation and all applicable guidance contained herein. We would probably treat this as a fire drill. Someone makes an announcement to form a single file line, wearing masks, socially distancing six feet apart, and to refrain from panicking.