Covid-19 Pool Safety July 10th, 2020



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PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- 1 Florida Phase 2 Reopening
 - 2 CDC COVID-19 Guidelines for Pools
 - 3 Poolsure's Safety Recommendations
 - 4 Communication and Summary

This presentation will be available for download following this meeting.



FLORIDA PHASE 2 REOPENING

Florida is in **Phase 2** of our statewide reopening plan. Public pools are not mentioned explicitly, but we can follow similar guidelines as those listed below:



Gyms and Retail Establishments:

May operate at full capacity with appropriate social distancing and frequent sanitization.



Entertainment Businesses and Restaurants (Indoor):

May operate at 50% capacity with appropriate social distancing and sanitization protocols.



FLORIDA PHASE 2 REOPENING



The following recommendations are also provided by the state of Florida in accordance with guidance from the CDC:

- Face masks are recommended (when not in water).
- Open businesses should follow appropriate social distancing and sanitation measures and limit groups to 10 people.
- Follow any additional local guidance.



BUSINESS RESPONSIBILITIES

If you do decide to reopen your pools...

Make sure there are procedures in place to help keep both employees and patrons safe!

Our recommendations today are based on information published by the CDC and the State of Florida.

Choose to implement anything that makes sense for your location.



CDC GUIDELINES

According to the CDC, there is **no evidence** that the COVID-19 virus can spread to humans through use of properly-disinfected pools and spas.

This means:

- COVID-19 cannot spread through pool water if it is properly disinfected.
- Swimming is a safe activity **if hotel** management is proactive about pool sanitization.



CONTROL AND PREVENTION



CDC COVID-19 POOL SAFETY VIDEO





CDC VIDEO RECAP

- Urge staff and guests to stay home if feeling sick.
- Encourage social distancing by limiting pool capacity.
- Promote healthy behaviors such as handwashing and mask* usage.
- Clean and disinfect equipment and pool toys between use.
- Remind patrons about healthy behaviors through emails, PA announcements, and handouts.



* Do not place a cloth covering on children under the age of two or those who cannot remove a covering without help. Do not wear a mask while in the water.

CDC VIDEO RECAP

- Provide staff and guests with sanitation supplies:
 - Hand washing soap
 - Paper towels
 - Garbage cans
 - Hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol
- Create a Covid Response Plan, including:
 - How to isolate a person with symptoms
 - Who to call when needed (ex: hospital, clinic)
 - How to transport a person from the pool area to the response center



HOW IS COVID-19 SPREAD IN POOLS?



According to the CDC, COVID-19 is primarily spread through respiratory droplets.

In pool areas, transmission can occur:

- Between people who are not practicing the recommended 6 ft of social distancing.
- Through inhaling respiratory droplets produced by an infected person while coughing, sneezing, or talking.
- If the pool is not properly **sanitized/disinfected**, and the virus is not effectively deactivated.



ENFORCE SOCIAL DISTANCING MEASURES

Hotels can **promote social distancing** practices during pool use:

- Consider setting up an appointment system for pool reservations.
- Rearrange pool furniture to accommodate for 6 ft of separation between individuals.
- Providing pool towels on an individual basis, either by leaving them in rooms or setting up a minimal-touch distribution system.
- Discourage sharing of pool equipment and toys.



CLEAN POOL AREAS THOROUGHLY



- Clean and disinfect pool shower areas and bathrooms between each group visit.
 - If you are not scheduling pool appointments, clean and disinfect at preset intervals throughout the day.
- Close the pool when maintenance staff is cleaning and disinfecting the furniture and equipment.
- Provide masks to pool patrons; encourage masks to be worn when not actively swimming in the water.



ALLOW WATER TO DISINFECT!

Proper disinfection of pool water happens when **chemicals are evenly distributed** through the pool.

- Ensure that pool sanitization chemicals (bleach and acid) are well stocked.
- Check daily that pool circulation and filtration systems are functioning at 100%.
- Use a SpinTouch or DPD test kit to manually test your pool water at least once per day.
 Ensure that FAC and pH levels are in range.

Acceptable Chemistry Ranges:

pH = 7.2 - 7.8

FAC = 1 - 10 ppm



COMMUNICATE GUIDELINES TO GUESTS

Communicating your guidelines is just as important as creating your guidelines.

- Post your pool safety notices along with the other safety notices on the hotel's website.
 - A checklist of safety guidelines might be helpful for guests.
- During check-in, inform guests about pool safety precautions that are in place.
- Provide a copy of safety guidelines in each room. Discard and replace after checkout.



IN SUMMARY...

- Create safety procedures for pool use to keep both employees and guests safe.
- Follow CDC guidelines when designing your safety procedures.
- Encourage all guests and employees to maintain 6 ft of social distancing at all times.
- Make sure that your pool area can accommodate 6 ft of social distancing at all times.
- Keep pool areas clean and disinfect any shared equipment after use.
- Allow pool water to disinfect by allowing for efficient filtration, circulation, and chemical treatment.
- Communicate your safety guidelines to guests clearly and often.





THANK YOU

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LINKS TO COVID-19 GUIDANCE

Florida Covid-19 Home Page

Florida Phase 2

CDC Pool Guidance

CDC Pool Checklist

Poolsure Pool Reopening Guidelines

