



New Regulations became effective on September 1, 2004. Numerous changes have been made. This form outlines changes. **Please be aware that all owners and operators are responsible for knowledge of ALL rule changes. This is NOT a comprehensive list.** A complete copy of the regulations can be found at www.tdh.state.tx.us/beh/gs/pools.htm.

If you have any questions concerning the new regulations or inspections, please contact the Environmental Health Services Division of the San Antonio Metro Health District at (210) 207-8853.

POOLS- DEEPER THAN 4FT		
Requirement	Pools Built before Oct. 1, 1999	Pools Built after Oct. 1, 1999
Flow Meter	Must have (Device reads gallons per minute)	Must have (Device reads gallons per minute)
Drain Covers	GPM must be stamped on cover ASME/ANSI stamped Grates must be 24" diagonal with 1.5 fps or less	GPM must be stamped on cover ASME/ANSI stamped Grates must be 24" diagonal with 1.5 fps or less
Maindrains and Safety Vacuum Release System (SVRS)	2 maindrains (at least 3 ft apart), OR 2 maindrains (not 3 ft apart) and a SVRD, OR 1 maindrain and a SVRS	2 maindrains (at least 3 ft apart), OR 2 maindrains (not 3 ft apart) and a SVRD
Bottom Stripe/Float Line	4" stripe on bottom of pool when greater than 5 ft Float line can be used in conjunction with Bottom Stripe	4" stripe on bottom of pool when greater than 5 ft Float line can be used in conjunction with Bottom Stripe

POOLS- 4FT OR LESS		
Requirement	Pools Built before Oct. 1, 1999	Pools Built after Oct. 1, 1999
Flow Meter	Must have (Device reads gallons per minute)	Must have (Device reads gallons per minute)
Drain Covers	GPM must be stamped on cover ASME/ANSI stamped Grates must be 24" diagonal with 1.5 fps or less	GPM must be stamped on cover ASME/ANSI stamped Grates must be 24" diagonal with 1.5 fps or less
Maindrains and Safety Vacuum Release System (SVRS)	2 maindrains (at least 3 ft apart) and a SVRS, OR 2 maindrains (at least 3 ft apart) with 24" diagonal grates and w/1.5 fps or less, OR 2 maindrains (not 3 ft apart), must have 1- 24" diagonal (cover or grate) and 1 approved cover or 2 grates and a SVRS, OR 1 maindrain with 24" diagonal and a SVRS	2 maindrains (at least 3 ft apart) and a SVRS, OR 2 maindrains (at least 3 ft apart) with 24" diagonal grates and w/1.5 fps or less, OR 2 maindrains (not 3 ft apart), must have 1- 24" diagonal (cover or grate) and 1 approved cover or 2 grates and a SVRS

ALL POOLS		
Requirement	Pools Built before Oct. 1, 1999	Pools Built after Oct. 1, 1999
Telephone or Emergency Call Device	Readily available within 200 ft of pool Phone must be installed outside of gate if there is a locked gate or door higher than 4 ft 4 in (location must be posted outside gate)	Readily available within 200 ft of pool Phone must be installed outside of gate if there is a locked gate or door higher than 4 ft 4 in (location must be posted outside gate)
Deck Markers	"NO DIVING" in 4" letters w/ symbol Depth markers required (4" letters) Units of measure not required	"NO DIVING" in 4" letters w/ symbol Depth markers required (4" letters) Units of measure required
Sidewall Markers	4" letters required Letters must be 1/2 halfway above water line Units of measure not required	4" letters required Placed on top 4.5" of pool Units of measure required
Signs	"NO DIVING" in 4" letters w/ symbol "Warning-No Lifeguard on Duty" in 4" letters Children should not use pool without supervision" in 2" letters	"NO DIVING" in 4" letters w/ symbol "Warning-No Lifeguard on Duty in 4" letters Children should not use pool without supervision" in 2" letters
Safety Equipment	"In case of emergency, call 911" in 1" letters 12 ft fiberglass, plastic or wood reaching pole Ring buoy with rope	"In case of emergency, call 911" in 1" letters 12 ft fiberglass, plastic or wood reaching pole Ring buoy with rope
Gates	Enclosure can be fence, wall, or building 4" ball cannot go through, around, or under fence Gates must open outward away from pool and be self-closing and self-latching	Enclosure can be fence, wall, or building 4" ball cannot go through, around, or under fence Gates must open outward away from pool and be self-closing and self-latching

OTHER POOL INFORMATION

Pools should be shut down immediately if drain cover is missing, broken, or loose or incorrect

One extra drain cover per pool must be on-site at all times.

Skimmer baskets may not be used as chemical feeders.

Bottom of pool and main drain must be clearly visible at the deepest part.

SPAS		
Requirement	Spas-Built before Oct. 1, 1999	Spa Built after Oct. 1, 1999
Flow Meter	Must have (Device reads gallons per minute)	Must have (Device reads gallons per minute)
Drain Covers	GPM must be stamped on cover ASME/ANSI stamped Grates must be 24" diagonal with 1.5 fps or less	GPM must be stamped on cover ASME/ANSI stamped Grates must be 24" diagonal with 1.5 fps or less
Maindrains and Safety Vacuum Release System (SVRS)	2 maindrains (at least 3 ft apart) and a SVRS, OR 2 maindrains (at least 3 ft apart) with 24" diagonal grates and w/1.5 fps or less, OR 2 maindrains (not 3 ft apart), must have 1- 24" diagonal (cover or grate) and 1 approved cover or 2 grates and a SVRS, OR 1 maindrain with 24" diagonal and a SVRS	2 maindrains (at least 3 ft apart) and a SVRS, OR 2 maindrains (at least 3 ft apart) with 24" diagonal grates and w/1.5 fps or less, OR 2 maindrains (not 3 ft apart), must have 1- 24" diagonal (cover or grate) and 1 approved cover or 2 grates and a SVRS
Emergency Shutoff	Switch is required Switch or location sign for switch must be within sight	Switch is required Switch or location sign for switch must be within sight

ALL SPAS		
Depth Markers	2 permanent 4" depth markers Units of measure are required	Other Spa Information: * Spa temperature controls should not be accessible to users *One extra drain cover per spa must be one-site at all times. *Spa should be shut down immediately if drain cover is missing, broken, or loose. *Spa should be shut down if temperature is above 104°F.
Sidewall Markers	Not required for spas	
Signs	"NO DIVING" in 4" letters w/ symbol "Warning-No Lifeguard on Duty" in 4" letters Children should not use pool without supervision" in 2" letters "In case of emergency, call 911" in 1" letters "Do not use the spa if the water temperature is over 104° F"	
Safety Equipment	Not required for spas	*Bottom of spa and main drain shall be clearly visible at the deepest part.
Thermometer	Unbreakable thermometer must be available	

WATER QUALITY		
Parameters	Minimum (ppm)	Maximum (ppm)
Free Chlorine in pools	1.0	8.0
Free Chlorine in spas	2.0	8.0
Bromine in pools	2.5	12.0
Bromine in spas	4.5	12.0
pH	7.0	7.8

* If the disinfection (Chlorine or Bromine) or pH is not between the minimum or maximum the pool needs to be CLOSED IMMEDIATELY.

BASIC GUIDELINES

Pool Classifications

Class A	Any pool used, with or without a fee, for accredited competitive aquatic events. These pools may be used for recreation.
Class B	Any pool used for public recreation and open to the general public with or without a fee.
Class C	Any pool operated for and in conjunction with lodgings such as hotels, motels, apartments, condominiums, mobile living parks, home owner associations, clubs, etc. or a school, college or university. The use of such a pool would be open to occupants, members, students, or their guests, <i>but not to the general public.</i>
Class D	A wading pool with a maximum depth of 24 inches at any point
Class E	Any special purpose pool such as wave or surface action pools, catch pools, leisure rivers, interactive play attractions, vortex pools and other such pools used primarily for aquatic attractions.

* Skimmer baskets may not be used as chemical feeders.

* Filter backwash water and pool/spa drainage water must be drained to a sanitary sewer or used for irrigation or vegetation provided that it does not pool, become a nuisance, or drain off the property.

* It is recommended that pool operators test water twice daily and keep written records of testing for 2 years.

* When a pool or spa is not in use for an extended period of time (such as off-season) clarity must be maintained and algae growth shall be prevented. The facility shall not become a breeding site for insects, give off objectionable odors, or create any other safety or nuisance situations.