

Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

Key Principles for Swimming Pools

STAY HOME if you are SICK



Stay away from others if you are feeling ill, isolate at home, do not go to work.

- Tell your employees if they are sick with any symptoms consistent with cold, influenza or COVID-19, even if symptoms are mild, they must remain at home, and contact their family physician/primary care provider or Health Link BC at 8-1-1 for further assistance.

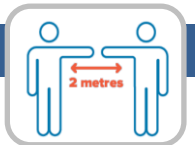
PRACTICE GOOD HYGIENE



Wash your hands often, avoid touching your face and cough/sneeze into your elbow or a tissue.

- Provide a supply of alcohol-based hand sanitizer at the entrance to the facility, pool enclosure and/or front check-in desk.
- Washrooms & showers must have liquid soap, paper towel and warm running water at all times.
- Employees must wash their hands with soap and water at the start and end of their shift, before eating, after returning from a break, and when hands are visibly soiled.
- Hand sanitizing using an alcohol-based hand sanitizer should also be practiced frequently throughout the day, especially after touching people or their belongings.
- Employees must practice good hygiene throughout their shift including proper hand hygiene and cough/sneeze etiquette.

MAKE SPACE BETWEEN PEOPLE



Maintain a distance of at least 2 metres from others and replace close contact greetings like handshakes, hugs or high fives with waves and smiles.

- Reduce maximum bather loads to minimize the number of patrons in the pool at one time.
- A 2 metre “bubble” of space should be maintained around each patron using the pool or hot tub, unless they are from the same party.
- Auxiliary areas may only be used and/or aquatic programs offered as long as 2 metres of separation can be maintained between patrons at all times.
- Mark 2 metre increments where crowds normally form (e.g. line-up at diving board/slides).

LEARN how to use PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT



Learn how to choose and use Personal Protective Equipment correctly, know the limitations of PPE, and always have other controls in place.

- PPE (mask, face shield, gloves & goggles) for employees conducting regular pool maintenance duties are not mandatory unless normally required (e.g. when handling pool chemicals).
- The use of non-medical masks may help prevent the risk of transmission from the wearer; if using non-medical masks, consult [WorkSafe BC Guidance](#) on selection and use of masks.

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MODIFY the ENVIRONMENT



Make your environment safer for interacting with others by reducing common touch surfaces, using non-porous barriers, or by changing the room design.

- Install shields (e.g. plexiglass) at front desks and in lobbies to protect administrative staff when interacting with patrons and collecting payments; encourage touchless transactions.
- Increase floor and deck space by removing unnecessary furniture and decorative items.
- Use markers at 2 metre intervals on changing room benches and provide extra cleaning supplies (spray sanitizer & paper towels) so patrons can wipe down surfaces at their own discretion.
- Remove shared equipment such as pool toys and if applicable, provide guests with single-use personal items (e.g. soap, shampoo).
- Organize moveable equipment where possible to create more open space.

INCREASE SANITATION



Disinfect common touch surfaces frequently using a chemical that will destroy the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

- Consider having separate cleaning supplies for different areas of the facility.
- In addition to following your regular cleaning activities, create a checklist of high-touch surfaces that must be cleaned and sanitized more frequently throughout the day.
- Use regular disinfecting solutions found in your pool safety plan; chlorine-based products are recommended, avoid using quaternary ammonium as it can create chloramines.
- Clean dirty surfaces with soap and water before disinfecting.

MANAGE INFORMATION & use SIGNAGE



Stay informed, follow public health advice, keep records, and make sure information you communicate is clear, accurate and easy to find.

- Sign-in sheets could be used to keep track of how many patrons are on site at one time.
- If practicable, retain contact information for one member of every party of patrons for 30 days in the event that there is a need for contact tracing by the Medical Health Officer.
- Have team members or a manager keep daily records of the people who worked together and retain these records for at least 30 days.
- Maintain up-to-date and consistent messaging on websites, social media, emails, press releases, and during conversations with customers to ensure all details are aligned, timely and accurate.
- Place signs on entrances to tell anyone entering not to enter if they are feeling ill, place hand washing signs at all sinks, and post any other additional rules related to COVID-19 precautions.