



COVID-19 Public Bathing Reopening Guidance

The following interim guidance is to assist public bathing establishments in reopening to the public after restrictions from the Governor's Executive Order are lifted. Reopening is based upon current guidance as of 04/23/2020 and may be subject to change in accordance with Governor's executive orders.

Note: Please check with your local municipality for rules related to reopening as they may have additional requirements.

Reopening guidelines:

Outdoor Pools - Reopen April 24, 2020

Indoor Pools and Larger Waterpark Facilities - Reopen on May 1, 2020

Hot tubs and Spas - Reopen on May 1, 2020

Please Follow CDC Recommendations on reopening hot tubs and spas.

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/swimming/aquatics-professionals/extended-hot-tub-closures.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/swimming/aquatics-professionals/operating-public-hot-tubs.html>

Please Follow CDC Recommendations on social distancing.

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/social-distancing.html>

Additional information on water and COVID-19:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/water.html>

- Recommend reducing capacity to 50% and ensuring chairs and seating maintain 6 ft. physical distancing. (remove at Phase 3)
- Continue to maintain pool chemicals within the OSDH [rules](#). Ensure that the sanitizer in the water is within range (chlorine 1-5ppm and bromine 2-4ppm).
- Provide Signage to limit capacity of restrooms and common areas to maintain 6 ft. physical distancing. (remove at Phase 3)
- Recommend wearing masks for staff interacting with customers, or staff that cannot maintain physical distancing due to the workspace. (remove at Phase 3)
- Remove or limit capacity of waiting areas to 10 or less people. (remove at Phase 3)



- Increased cleaning of frequently touched surfaces (tables, restrooms, doors, chair seats and backs, arm rests, etc.) in accordance with the [CDC recommendations](#).
- Inform customers to refrain from visiting the establishment if they feel sick, have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, or are exhibiting symptoms.
- Screen/question customers, employees and vendors for symptoms. (cough, fever, shortness of breath, close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19) (remove at Phase 3)

Employees:

- Workers with the symptoms matching COVID-19 should stay home.
- Workers who have symptoms should not return to work until they are symptom free. (Current guidance is free of symptoms for 72 hours.)
- Increased washing of hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- Remind employees to cover coughs and sneezes and use a tissue when possible. Also follow with an immediate hand wash of at least 20 seconds.

Employers:

- Be ready to implement strategies to [protect their workforce](#) from COVID-19 while ensuring continuity of operations.
- Limit use of high-risk staff (Age 65+, immunocompromised) (remove at Phase 3)
- Ensure that your sick leave policies are flexible and consistent with public health guidance and that employees are aware of these policies.
- If an employee is confirmed to have COVID-19, employers should inform fellow employees of their possible exposure to COVID-19 in the workplace but maintain confidentiality as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Employees exposed to a co-worker with confirmed COVID-19 should refer to CDC guidance for [how to conduct a risk assessment](#) of their [potential exposure](#).
- Cross-train personnel to perform essential functions so that the workplace is able to operate even if key staff members are absent.

