

Aquatic Health FAQ

The Governor's Directive says hot tubs cannot be used.

What about the spa by my pool?

In the Directive, the use of the term "hot tubs" includes all hot tubs, jacuzzis and spas regardless of where they are located.

How do I open my pool if I have a spa in the same enclosure? How can I effectively designate that my spa is closed?

Spas need to be kept closed and clearly designated that they are not intended to be used. This can be simply accomplished by placing an X over the top of the spa with caution tape or roping off the spa with cones etc., disabling the jet pump and turning off the heater.

Can I turn the circulation system off on my spa?

No, minimum water quality must be maintained at all times to prevent public health or nuisance conditions from developing.

Do I need to maintain access to the restroom facilities?

Yes, if your aquatic venue was constructed with restroom facilities, they must be maintained open, in good repair and stocked for use when the pool is open.

How often do I need to clean and disinfect high-touch surfaces and restroom areas?

At least once daily.

Do I need to rope off my deck showers?

No, rinse showers are not part of the directive and can remain in use. The idea is that bathers need to come dressed to use the facility. Rinse showers do not impact this behavior and still may reduce the spread of disease in pools, so they are encouraged to be used.

Do I need to mark off spots 6 feet apart inside the aquatic venue to facilitate proper social distancing?

No, it is anticipated that people will be moving around when in the aquatic venue. Distancing will be best accomplished through limited capacity inside the aquatic venue.

How much do I need to reduce the total capacity in my pool enclosure and my pool?

The total capacity may not exceed 50% of the fire code designation for total area capacity, but the greater limiting factor is how many people can fit into the area while maintaining 6 feet of social distancing both inside and outside of the water. With the social distancing considerations, the overall capacity is likely to be reduced by more than 50%.

What do I do with my drinking fountain?

All drinking fountains need to be taken out of use at this time. The need to prevent the spread of disease supersedes the traditional regulatory requirement associated with maintaining drinking fountains with aquatic venues. Advise guests to bring their own water.

How do you social distance in a pool?

Do not allow lane sharing in lap pools and designate swimming areas versus standing/play areas. Set up exercise classes to establish proper spacing between participants.

If our residents or guests refuse to follow social distancing guidelines what should we do?

Close the pool area. Social distancing is a key component to reducing the spread of this disease, especially with the number of asymptomatic carriers that have been identified.

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Exactly what requirements are we required to follow?

The Governor's directive is a legal mandate and must be followed. You are strongly encouraged to follow the requirements outlined in the LEAP guidance documents.

How do we track reservations at an HOA facility?

That requirement has been removed from the LEAP documents as of June 4, 2020. It is only a recommendation in facilities where it is possible.

Do we need to contract with a professional cleaning company to disinfect our restrooms daily?

No. Disinfecting restroom surfaces daily is a requirement that coincides with the current Southern Nevada Health District Aquatic Facility Regulations; there is nothing in the regulations that dictates who is responsible for completing that task. If your organization would like to solicit volunteers to accomplish this cleaning schedule, that is perfectly acceptable.

What disinfectants should be used to clean the restroom?

Any disinfectant used should be on the [EPA List N](#). The directions on the label must be followed including the amount of time that the product must remain on the surface.

Does my pool need to have a security guard or some type of person onsite to oversee that the Governor's rules are applied to open and operate this year?

No. No additional personnel are required to operate your facility this year from any other pool season if you have an aquatic venue associated with a HOA or an apartment complex.

Do I need a lifeguard for my apartment complex pool?

Only if you needed a lifeguard previously.

Do I need to be inspected prior to opening?

No. Unless the last inspection report states that you must pass a full inspection prior to reopening (e.g., you did not pass your last inspection) you may open without first receiving an inspection.

What additional COVID signage do we need to post?

The reduced capacity that is in response to the COVID-19 reopening guidelines with the 50% reduction in consideration of what can be practically accommodated while following social distancing protocols must be posted either at the entrance to the venue or where it is clearly visible to those using the facility. It is recommended that you post signs encouraging 6 ft. social distancing, staying home if you have symptoms, and wearing a face covering, all of which can be found at www.snhd.info/reopen#posters.

My HOA, management company or apartment complex refuses to open the pool. What are my options?

The Health District cannot require any facility to open its aquatic venue for use but can require that it meet minimum safety and sanitation requirements if it is open. The only requirement for a closed aquatic venue is that the barrier be maintained sound and the venue is maintained free from nuisance conditions.

My permit says it expires June 30, 2020. What do I do?

Our permits always run on the fiscal year July 1 through June 30. You will receive a bill at the end of June or early July. Pay the invoice and you will receive your updated permit. This will be no different than in previous years.

How will I know if these guidance documents are changed?

You can visit www.snhd.info/reopen. On that page you can provide your email address to receive updates when the documents on that page are updated. The documents you find on that page are ones that were developed by the Health District and are updated when new information becomes available. You can also visit <https://nvhealthresponse.nv.gov/news-resources/governor-directives-and-declarations> and see if the reopening guidance documents for the various phases have been updated.