

Aquatic Venues and Facilities

Significant Rule Changes for Operators



The changes to the Pool and Spa Rules (OAR 333-060 and 333-062) that are listed below were developed by a workgroup of industry and regulatory members to update the statewide standards. Please note that the rules listed below are not the only changes to the public pool and spa standards. The complete rules are available at: www.healthoregon.org/pl

✓	Rule Citation	Subject	Summary	Effective Date
	3.0	Definition, Aquatic Facility	A physical place that contains one or more aquatic venues and support infrastructure.	April 1, 2025
	3.0	Definition, Aquatic Venue	An artificially constructed structure or modified natural structure where the public is exposed to water for recreational or therapeutic purposes. Examples include swimming pools, wave pools, lazy rivers, surf pools, spas, waterslide landing pools, spray pads and other interactive water venues.	April 1, 2025
	3.0	Definition, Authority Having Jurisdiction	Means the Oregon Health Authority, Local Public Health Authority, or an agency, organization, office, or individual responsible for enforcing the requirements of a code or standard, or for approving equipment, materials, installations, or procedures.	April 1, 2025
	3.0	Definition, Interactive Water Play Venue	Any indoor or outdoor installation that includes sprayed, jetted, or other water sources contacting bathers and not incorporating standing or captured water as part of the bather activity area. These aquatic venues are also known as splash pads and spray pads. For the purposes of these rules, only those designed to recirculate water and intended for public use and recreation shall be regulated.	April 1, 2025
	3.0	Definition, Non-Substantial Alteration	Any minor modification, repair, or maintenance work that does not significantly change the aquatic venue's core structure, operational systems, or capacity.	April 1, 2025
	4.1.3.2	Non-Substantial Alterations	The operator shall contact OHA or jurisdiction-having county to review proposed changes to determine if a plan review is required, prior to starting a non-substantial alteration.	April 1, 2025
	4.1.3.3	Replacements	Prior to replacing equipment, the operator shall submit technical verification to the OHA or jurisdiction-having county that all replacement equipment is equal to that which was originally approved and installed.	April 1, 2025
	4.1.3.3	Emergency Replacements	In emergencies, the replacement may be made prior to receiving OHA or county's approval, with the owner accepting responsibility for proper immediate replacement, if the equipment is not deemed equivalent.	April 1, 2025
	4.7.1.6.2	Single Main Drains	Existing aquatic venues with a single main drain shall be equipped with either a secondary anti-entrapment device or a single unblockable drain, to meet compliance with Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act.	April 1, 2028
	5.4.1.1.1	Closure of Venue with Enclosure (ex: seasonal closure)	Aquatic Venues with an enclosure must be closed by: 1) The water shall be recirculated and treated to meet the criteria of this code; or 2) The water shall be drained; and 3) Access to the aquatic venue shall be restricted and routine checks of the integrity of the aquatic venue enclosure shall be made.	April 1, 2025
	5.4.1.1.2	Closure of Venue without Enclosure but Open to Public (ex: one pool is open in same enclosure with other closed pools)	Aquatic venues without an enclosure but open to the public must be closed by: 1) The water shall be recirculated and treated to meet the criteria of this code and the aquatic venue shall be staffed to keep bathers out; 2) The water shall be drained, and the aquatic venue shall be staffed to keep bathers out; 3) A temporary enclosure for the aquatic venue shall be installed to keep bathers out, and routine checks of the integrity of the temporary aquatic venue enclosure shall be made; or 4) An approved safety cover that is certified, listed, and labeled to ASTM F1346-91 by an ANSI-accredited certification organization shall be installed.	April 1, 2025

Establishment Name: _____ City: _____ Date: _____

Operator _____ EHS: _____

If you have any questions or comments on the rules, please contact Taku Nagamine at takuho.nagamine@oha.oregon.gov.

See back page for more information

✓	Rule Citation	Subject	Summary	Effective Date
	5.4.1.1.3	Closure of Venue Without Enclosure and not Open to Public (ex: splash pad)	Aquatic venues without an enclosure and closed to the public must be closed by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The water shall be recirculated and treated to meet the criteria of this code and all play equipment turned off; 2) The water shall be drained. 	April 1, 2025
	5.6.9.2.2	Glass	Glass furniture within the pool enclosure is prohibited.	April 1, 2025
	5.6.9.3.1	Deck Obstructions	The perimeter deck (4') shall be free from obstructions for limited-use and general-use facilities.	April 1, 2025
	5.6.9.3.2.1	Diaper Changing	Diaper changing on the pool deck is prohibited.	April 1, 2025
	5.7.3.1.1.2	Minimum Free Chlorine Levels	New minimum DPD-FC levels: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 ppm for aquatic venues without cyanuric acid • 2 ppm for aquatic venues with cyanuric acid • 3 ppm for spas 	April 1, 2025
	5.7.3.1.1.5	DPD-FC (Maximum)	Maximum DPD-FC concentrations shall not exceed 10.0 ppm (<i>mg/L</i>) at any time the aquatic venue is open to bathers.	April 1, 2025
	5.7.3.1.3.1	CYA (Use)	The use of cyanuric acid (CYA) and stabilized chlorine products prohibited at spas and indoor pools for existing facilities.	April 1, 2029
	5.7.3.1.3.2	CYA (Maximum)	The CYA level at all aquatic venues shall remain at or below 90 ppm (<i>mg/L</i>).	April 1, 2025
	5.8.5.4.3	CPR Posters	Facilities without lifeguards must post CPR posters in a conspicuous location.	April 1, 2025
	5.8.5.4.4	Imminent Health Hazard Sign	Facilities without lifeguards must post a sign outlining the imminent health hazards, which require aquatic venue or aquatic facility closure and a telephone number to report problems to the owner/operator.	April 1, 2025
	6.3.1.2.5(6)	Surveillance	The operator must provide in-person surveillance of the aquatic venue and premises every 4 hours during hours of operation.	April 1, 2025
	6.4.1.3.1	Daily Inspection	The qualified operator or responsible supervisor must conduct a preventative maintenance inspection before opening the facility.	April 1, 2025
	6.4.2.2.3	Pool Safety Signs	The following additions will be required for pool safety signs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In case of an emergency, dial 911 or other emergency instructions. • Hours of operation. • Maximum bather load. • Do not swim if you have open wounds. • Do not swallow or spit water. • Diaper changing on the deck is prohibited. • Intentional hyperventilation or extended breath holding activities are dangerous and prohibited. 	April 1, 2025 Facilities may wait to comply until the signs are replaced, repaired or moved.
	6.4.2.2.3.7	Spa Safety Signs	The following additions will be required for spa safety signs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum water temperature is 104° F (40°C). • Children under age 5 and people using alcohol or drugs that cause drowsiness shall not use spas. • Use of the spa when alone is prohibited (if no lifeguards onsite). 	April 1, 2025 Facilities may wait to comply until the signs are replaced, repaired or moved.
	6.5.3	Contamination Protocol	Operators shall follow the contamination disinfection procedures outlined in 6.5.3 and 6.5.4, for feces, vomit, blood, or legionella contamination.	April 1, 2025
	6.6.3.1	CYA (Closure)	Aquatic venues must be closed when the CYA:DPD-FC ratio exceeds 45:1.	April 1, 2025
	6.6.3.1	Closure Criteria	The following new closure criteria will be added: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • pH above 7.8 or below 7.0. • Non GFCI protected electrical receptacles within 20 feet of the inside wall of the aquatic venue. • Unprotected overhead electrical wires within 20 feet horizontally of the aquatic venue. • Use of an unapproved or contaminated water supply source for potable water use. • Absence of all required lifesaving equipment missing on deck. • Total absence of or improper depth markings at an aquatic venue. • Plumbing cross-connections between the drinking water supply and aquatic venue water or between sewage system and the aquatic venue including filter backwash facilities. • Number of bathers/patrons exceeds the maximum bather load. • Broken glass or sharp objects in aquatic venue or on deck area. • Use of unapproved chemicals or the application of chemicals by unapproved methods to the aquatic venue water. 	April 1, 2025