

WELCOME TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT POOL SAFETY NEWSLETTER

Sacramento County
Environmental Management Department
Environmental Health Division
10590 Armstrong Ave
Mather, CA 95655

Share this newsletter
with your pool
maintenance person!

Environmental Health Specialists are available in person or by phone (916) 875-8440 from 8 am to 10 am.



Swimming Pool/Spa Workshop

Provided by the Sacramento County Environmental Management Department

If you own, operate, or service the following Swimming Pools or Spas:

Apartment Complex · Hotel or Motel · Condominium · Homeowners Association ·

Health and Fitness Club · Park · School · Aquatics Facility

Come to this FREE workshop!

Your pool or spa WILL be inspected in 2019 - Be Prepared!

Come participate in a FREE training presented by the Environmental Management Department on pool and spa regulations that apply to fencing/gates, signage, chemistry, records/daily logs, recirculation equipment, SVRS, suction covers and more.

Only 5 Sessions - Call to reserve your spot soon!

Dates: Wednesday, May 15, 2019
Wednesday, May 29, 2019
Wednesday, June 12, 2019
Wednesday, June 26, 2019
Wednesday, July 10, 2019
Time: All classes: 1:30 – 3:30 pm
Location: Sacramento County EMD
10590 Armstrong Ave
Mather, CA 95655

Sign up by calling (916) 875-8440 or
email EMD-WorkshopRegistration@saccounty.net (include facility name and number of attendees)



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

2019 SWIMMING POOL/SPA NEWSLETTER

10590 Armstrong Avenue Suite B • Mather, CA 95655 (916) 875-8440 • Fax (916) 875-8513
emd.saccounty.net

Expired Suction Covers Need to be Replaced

Suction covers used in pools and spas are made of materials that can degrade over time from exposure to water, chemicals and sunlight. Due to these factors, the Consumer Product Safety Commission requires manufacturers to mark their covers with the number of years it can be used safely under normal conditions. The lifespan is stamped on the cover and ranges from 3-7 years depending on the manufacturer and model number.

How do I know if my covers are expired?

When new suction covers are installed, an AB 1020 Compliance Form must be submitted to Sacramento County Environmental Management Department (EMD). This form states the make and model of the covers as well as the date they were installed. Copies of this form were provided to the contractor by EMD upon approval.

- **FIRST:** Find out the date your covers were installed (it may be noted on your last inspection report)
 - Find previous inspection reports at: <https://emdinspections.saccounty.net/pool.aspx>
 - Check your records or contact the contractor who installed the covers to obtain a copy of your AB 1020 Compliance Form. If the contractor is unable to provide the form, contact your EMD pool inspector.
- **SECOND:** Look up the lifespan of your suction covers on the manufacturer's website.
- **THIRD:** Count the number of years since it was installed and see if it has exceeded its lifespan.

Only a
LICENSED CONTRACTOR
(C53, C36, C61, D35)
may replace suction covers

Replacing with the same make and model #:
Contractor submits a new AB 1020 Compliance Form to EMD Plan Review. *ph (916) 874-6010*

Replacing with a different make and model #:
Contractor submits an Application for Minor Remodel to EMD Plan Review prior to starting any work. Once the application is approved and the work is complete, the contractor must submit a new AB1020 Compliance Form to EMD within 30 days.

Please note: It is the pool operator's responsibility to ensure that the contractor complies with these requirements.



If this cover was installed before 2014, it is expired!

What will happen during the inspection?

During routine inspections conducted in 2019, expired suction covers will be noted on the inspection report. If you receive this note on your inspection report, your suction covers need to be replaced. When inspections are conducted in 2020, expired suction covers may be documented as a major violation which could result in pool/spa closure.

Hazardous Materials Storage – Have you met the threshold?

How much pool chlorine are you storing? Facilities that have more than 55 gallons of a liquid, 200 standard cubic feet of a compressed gas, or 500 pounds of a solid hazardous material on site, need to file a hazardous materials business plan with Sacramento County Environmental Management Department (EMD).

During routine pool inspections, some facilities have been noted to be storing more than 55 gallons of liquid chlorine and/or muriatic acid. If a facility is storing more than 55 gallons of a hazardous material, they will be referred to EMD's Hazardous Materials Business Plan Section. If you have questions about hazardous materials storage, business plans and permit requirements, please call the EMD Environmental Compliance Division at (916) 875-8550.

A facility may avoid the hazardous materials business plan requirements by storing less than the "reportable quantity" of hazardous materials on site.



Fences and Gates are the First Line of Defense

Keeping small children from being able to enter the pool area is one of the most important ways to prevent drownings. Check your fences and gates daily to ensure they are working properly.

- ➔ Gate self closes and latches when opened to body width
- ➔ Check for tampering or disabling of latch
- ➔ No gaps in fence greater than 4"
- ➔ No gaps under fence greater than 2" if the fence not over concrete



Gate latch found disabled during routine inspection

Test Your Pool Daily and Log the Results



	Free Chlorine Level Min/ Max		pH	*Cyanuric Acid (CYA)
	No Cyanuric acid/stabilizer used	Cyanuric acid/stabilizer used (tablet feeders)		
Pools	1 - 10 ppm Cl	2 - 10 ppm Cl	7.2- 7.8	100 ppm max
Spas, Wading Pools, and Spray Grounds	3 - 10 ppm Cl	3 - 10 ppm Cl	7.2- 7.8	100 ppm max

*Please note: Liquid chlorine will raise the pH in a pool/spa. It is important to maintain the pH in the proper range to ensure that chlorine works effectively. *Cyanuric acid test required 1x per month.*

NOTICE

Persons having currently active diarrhea or who have had active diarrhea within the previous 14 days shall not be allowed to enter the pool water.

The "Diarrhea Sign" ...do I really need a sign that talks about that???

In 2013 California regulations were updated to require that a sign be posted at the entrance to pools/spas stating: "Persons having currently active diarrhea or who have had active diarrhea within the previous 14 days shall not be allowed to enter the pool water"

Many inspectors have been told that swimmers find this statement unpleasant. Although the effectiveness of the sign may be debatable, it does highlight one of the most dangerous types of contamination to pool water.

Diarrhea is often caused by germs like *Cryptosporidium (Crypto)*, *Giardia*, *Norovirus*, *Shigella*, and *E. coli* O157:H7. Crypto is the leading cause of most outbreaks linked to swimming pools/spas and is particularly hard to control, because it is not quickly killed by chlorine. Crypto can be spread in pools when a person who is infected with it, and recently had diarrhea, goes swimming.

The best way to prevent the spread of illness is for people who have had diarrhea to stay out of the water, but you can also encourage swimmers at your pool to follow these guidelines:

- ➔ Don't swim or let your kids swim when sick with diarrhea.
- ➔ Don't swallow the water.
- ➔ Take kids on bathroom breaks every 60 minutes.
- ➔ Check diapers every 30–60 minutes and change them in a bathroom away from the water.
- ➔ Shower before you get in the water.

News Flash

California State Pool Code – The codes that apply to public pools can be found through a link on the EMD website at emdinspections.saccounty.net/pool.aspx

New Management? – If your facility has changed management companies, please let us know! Also, please note, a new permit is required for all ownership changes. Help keep our records current and call us at (916) 875-8440 when your facility's contact information changes.

EMD Payments Online - You can use your credit card to pay health permit fees from your business or your home. Log on at: www.apps.saccounty.net/payments/



Daily Maintenance

- Use test kit to check free chlorine and pH levels
- Fill out the daily log
- Ensure that gates and fences are in good shape
- Check that water is clean and clear
- Is the main drain cover secure and intact?
- Make sure recirculation equipment is running when the pool is open.
- Clean out the skimmer baskets

Upgrading your old equipment? Resurfacing your pool/spa? Contact EMD first!

If you are changing your pump, filter, chlorinator, SVRS, suction covers, plumbing, or planning to resurface your pool – please call EMD. Many of these items require plan review and a licensed contractor to perform the work. For Plan Review information, call (916) 874-6010.