



**City of West Haven  
Dept. of Public Health**

**GUIDELINES FOR POOL CLOSURE**

The Connecticut Public Health Code Section 19-13-B33b (g) requires that “the Director of Health shall order closure (of any public pool) when there is significant evidence of communicable disease being transmitted through use of the pool, when the public pool is being operated in such manner as to constitute a significant health nuisance, or when imminent safety hazards exist.”

The following are some situations which would be considered significant health nuisances or imminent safety hazards:

- Where pool water clarity is such that the bottom of the pool cannot be observed. (See subsection 19-13-B33b (b) 4).
- Where the required minimum disinfectant residual is not maintained. In swimming pools, the free available chlorine must be at least 0.8 mg/1 or 1.5 when cyanuric acid or isocyanurates are used and bromine must be at least 1.5 mg/1. In spas, free available chlorine must exceed 1.0 and bromine levels must be between 1.0 and 3.0 mg/1.
- Where appropriate drain gates are not provided on bottom drains and sidewall suction fittings. These drain gates must be properly secured and in good repair.
- Where structural deficiencies and disrepair present substantial and imminent safety hazards to pool patrons.
- Where a discharge of fecal matter into the pool has occurred. Policies for the use of pool facilities by infants and toddlers should be adopted.
- Where adequate units of lifesaving equipment are not provided.
- Where pool water temperatures exceed 104° F in public whirlpools, spas.

It should be noted that this is not an all inclusive list and that additional situations may occur besides those listed above which would warrant immediate closure of the pool.

Inspections shall be conducted by the director of health or her/his authorized agent to evaluate conformance with these regulations and to protect the public health and safety. Any person aggrieved by an order issued by a director of health, may within forty-eight hours after the making of such order, appeal to the commissioner of health services in accordance with Section 19a-229 of the General Statutes and Sections 19-2-1 to 19-2-43 inclusive of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.