INTERIM GUIDANCE FOR POOL FACILITIES:
HEALTH OFFICER’S ORDER
(August 13, 2020)

On July 28, 2020 the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors passed an ordinance delegating enforcement of the Health Officer’s Order to various agencies, which may include Environmental Health. Per the Boards directive, these agencies will begin conducting inspections to verify compliance with the Order. The Order includes, but is not necessarily limited to the following:

Pools (Only outdoor pools are allowed to be open OR camps with an indoor or outdoor pool)

1. Employees, contractors, owners, and volunteers must wear a face covering (that covers nose and mouth, except when in the pool). Note: Approved face coverings must not contain a valve.
2. Patrons must wear a face covering except when in the pool or shower.
3. Employer must provide employees face coverings and other required personal protective equipment (PPE).
4. Facility must take all reasonable steps to prohibit any member of the public who is not wearing a face covering from entering and must not serve that person if those efforts are unsuccessful.
5. Prepare and implement a Social Distancing Protocol (SDP). Post a copy of the SDP at each public entrance and distribute copy to each employee. See Appendix A of the Health Officer’s Order.
6. Train employees on the SDP, including the symptoms of Covid-19 and to not come to work if sick.
7. Prepare, post, implement, and distribute to employees and vendors a written health and safety plan that addresses all applicable best practices set forth in relevant Health Officer directives. See Appendix C-1 of the Health Officer’s Order.
8. Provide temperature and/or symptom screenings for all workers at the beginning of their shift and any vendors, contractors, or other workers entering the establishment. Make sure the temperature/symptom screener avoids close contact with workers to the extent possible. If self-screening is used in lieu of screening at the facility, ensure that it is done before the person leaves home for the facility and follows CDC guidelines.
9. Post signage at each public entrance of the facility to inform all employees and customers that they should:
   • Avoid entering the facility if they have COVID-19 symptoms.
   • Maintain a minimum six-foot distance from one another.
• Sneeze and cough into a cloth or tissue or, if not available, into one’s elbow.
• Wear face coverings.
• Not shake hands or engage in any unnecessary physical contact.

10. Implement and enforce social distancing (e.g., floor markings, signage, limit number of people inside the facility, arrangement of deck furniture, etc.).

11. Spas may not be open.

12. The maximum occupancy of the pool must be limited to a number that is less than or equal to the number of square feet of shared pool space divided by 75.

13. The pool operator must post a sign at or near the entrance to the pool facility that sets forth the maximum allowable occupancy of the pool based on the above limitation.

14. The facility must provide at least one person, separate from a lifeguard, paid or unpaid, who shall be on duty at all times to ensure that the social distancing protocol applicable to the facility and all limitations herein are followed. The person performing this function may not be one of the swimmers in the pool. Note: Outdoor pools are only required to have a monitor when members of different households are using the pool at the same time. A monitor is NOT required when one individual is using the pool at a time, or when members of the same household are the only individuals in the pool at a time.

15. High-contact surfaces must be disinfected regularly. Use disinfect(s) that are EPA approved for Covid-19 (Coronavirus).

16. High-touch surfaces such as faucets, toilets, doorknobs, and light switches must be frequently cleaned and disinfected.

17. Create and post a cleaning schedule in every open restroom facility. Post the cleaning schedule on the front of the door so visitors know when they can/cannot use the restroom.

18. Only allow shower room use if partitions are in place or signs have been posted to specify physical distancing requirements. Note: Showers are required per Pool Code unless readily available in a nearby living unit.

19. Outdoor recreation operators that have swimming pools which include water slides, water rides, or other water attractions must keep those areas closed until such operations can resume. Swimming pools themselves can remain open.

20. Set up a system so that furniture and equipment (e.g., lounge chairs) that need to be cleaned and disinfected are kept separate from furniture that has already been cleaned and disinfected. Label containers for used equipment that has not yet been cleaned and disinfected and containers for cleaned and disinfected equipment.

21. If towels are provided, launder them and clothing according to the manufacturer’s instructions. Use the warmest appropriate water temperature and dry items completely. Handle towels with disposable gloves and minimal disturbance, i.e., do not shake them.

22. Ensure that the facility has adequate equipment for patrons, such as kick boards, pool noodles, and other flotation devices, to minimize sharing wherever possible. Limit the use of the equipment to one patron at a time and clean and disinfect the items after each use.
For the complete requirements go to: https://www.coronavirus.cchealth.org/health-orders

Please note the Health Officer Order is regularly updated. The Health Officer Order includes references to the State Health Officer’s Order. Where there are differences between these orders, the stricter standard shall apply. If operating as a “camp” the facility must also comply with the requirements applicable to camps.

**Please note that violation of the Health Officer Order is subject to fines and other enforcement actions.**