



6/26/2020

Swimming Facility Guidelines

Restore Illinois – Phase 4

This document is intended to provide guidance for operating swimming facilities licensed by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) during Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois plan. This includes, but is not limited to, swimming pools, water parks, splashpads, bathing beaches, spas, and whirlpools.

During Phase 4, swimming facilities licensed by IDPH may be opened with a maximum of 50% of the established bather load. However, spas and whirlpools may not be opened at this time.

When features exist that cause patrons to congregate, including but not limited to, water slides and lazy rivers, additional controls must be implemented to prevent the spread of disease. Written plans addressing such features shall be available for inspection by IDPH staff or any other duly authorized government agent. Such plans shall minimally include controls for maintaining social distancing while patrons wait for and use the feature(s), including but not limited to, using attendants to meter patrons queuing at features; utilizing markings, signage, and verbal advisories to maintain six foot social distancing before, during, and after using the feature; and providing sanitized (using listed and labeled products) rafts, tubes, or other “equipment” used by patrons.

Rafts, tubes, lounge chairs or other shared “equipment” must be sanitized between each use with a solution of at least 50 parts per million of an EPA approved sanitizing agent. Guidance for appropriate cleaning of frequently touched surfaces and shared objects can be found at:

[CDC Considerations for Public Pools, Hot Tubs, and Water Playgrounds](#)

Wave pools may be opened without the use of the wave generation equipment. Operators should limit group sizes to no more than 50 people, allowing for social distancing where possible. However, multiple groups of up to 50 people may be permitted if: facilities allow for social distancing of guests and employees; 30 feet of distancing is maintained between groups; and areas for each group are clearly marked to discourage interaction between groups.



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Operators, employees, and customers should wear face coverings when not engaged in swimming activities (exceptions can be made for children younger than two years or people with medical conditions or disabilities that prevent them from safely wearing a face covering.) Operators should display signage at entry with guidelines for face coverings, social distancing, and cleaning protocols. Operators, employees, and customers should frequently wash their hands or use hand sanitizer. Operators, employees, and customers should adhere to social distancing where applicable. Operators should make employee and customer temperature checks required upon entry to the facility. **Operators should have in-person screenings of employees and customers upon entry into the swimming facility, and mid-shift screening of employees, to verify the absence of COVID-19 symptoms. Hand sanitizers shall be provided on the deck and in the bather preparation facility.**

If an employee does contract COVID-19, they should remain isolated at home for a minimum of 10 days after symptom onset OR until feverless and feeling well (without fever-reducing medication) for at least 72 hours OR until confirmed to not have COVID-19 via 2 negative COVID-19 tests in a row, with testing done at least 24 hours apart.

Showers and restrooms should be made available and should be cleaned and sanitized regularly. Operators should minimize face-to-face employee and customer interaction where possible. Operators should clean and sanitize lounge chairs, lounge areas, common areas, and frequently touched surfaces on a regular basis.

Swimming facilities licensed to serve food may do so consistent with Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) guidelines.

Additional Resources:

[Considerations for Public Pools, Hot Tubs, and Water Playgrounds During COVID-19](#)

[CDC Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers](#)

[CDC Workplace Decision Tool](#)

[IDPH Testing Guidance](#)

[IDPH FAQs](#)

[Symptoms of Coronavirus](#)

[IDHR FAQ for Businesses Concerning Use of Face-Coverings During COVID-19](#)

[CDC Guidelines on Cleaning and Disinfecting Your Facility](#)

[CDC Guidance on Cleaning Public Spaces, Workplaces, Businesses, Schools, and Homes](#)

[EPA Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2](#)