



## DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH County of Riverside

DISTRICT ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

### Community Pool Guidance – COVID-19

We wish to thank and commend the many property managers and homeowners associations (HOAs) that have closed pools, spas, and barbeque areas in an effort to slow the spread of COVID-19 and protect residents. These guidelines are being provided so that managers, HOAs, and residents can make responsible decisions for the potential use of community pools and spas. If a property management company or HOA decides to open the pool, it is recommended to do the following:

#### CREATE A DISINFECTION PLAN

- Create a written disinfection plan that identifies frequently touched surfaces, a schedule, and designated person to complete disinfection tasks
- Use an [EPA approved disinfectant](#) on commonly touched surfaces, including but not limited to:
  - Pool Area - gate, latch, tables, chairs, drinking fountain, pool handrails, and countertops
  - Shared Restroom - door handles, light switches, faucets, latches, and dispensers

#### POST SIGNAGE

- Post signage reminding residents to wash their hands frequently with soap and water, cover coughs and sneezes, and to avoid the pool area if they are experiencing symptoms of illness including a fever of 100°F or above, sore throat, runny nose, chills, not feeling well, sneezing, coughing, abdominal pain, or diarrhea

#### IMPLEMENT PHYSICAL DISTANCING PROTOCOLS AND HAND HYGIENE RECOMMENDATIONS

- Six feet separation is required, and swimmers should limit themselves to lanes
- No large groups or pool parties allowed. Families are permitted from the same household
- Implement scheduled time slots for use on the busiest days to control the flow of users
- Close the spa or limit use to 1 person or household at a time (post signage)
- Lounge chairs and/or tables should be properly distanced. If they cannot be distanced, they should be secured and stored
- Remind residents to wear a cloth face covering when traveling through common areas of the property where it may not be possible to maintain physical distancing, including to and from the pool, barbeque area, and shared restrooms
- Provide, or ask that residents bring hand sanitizer
- Frequently check shared restrooms to ensure they are stocked with hand soap and paper towels

Safe water, sanitation, and hygiene are essential to protecting human health during disease outbreaks. There is no evidence that COVID-19 can be spread to humans through the use of pools and spas; however, maintaining good chlorine levels in our community pools may help to prevent its spread.

For more information regarding health and safety requirements for community pools and spas visit:  
<http://www.rivcoeh.org/OurServices/PoolsSpasWaterFeatures>.

OFFICES IN: RIVERSIDE, BLYTHE, CORONA, HEMET, INDIO, MURRIETA AND PALM SPRINGS

For more information call (888) 722-4234

Department Web Site – [www.rivcoeh.org](http://www.rivcoeh.org)