

Reasons for Pool Closures

The City of Albuquerque Swimming Pool Ordinance Section § 10-3-5-1 requires that “Whenever a permit holder or operator has failed to comply with any of the requirements of this article, the permit holder or operator shall be notified in a writing which identifies or references such condition; specifies the time period within which such condition shall be brought into compliance, if any period to cure is allowed; and states that failure to comply with any notice issued in accordance with the provisions of this article may result in immediate suspension of the permit. Notwithstanding the other provisions of this article, whenever the Enforcement Authority finds a condition in the operation of a swimming pool which constitutes an immediate hazard to the public health, welfare or safety, the Enforcement Authority may without prior warning, notice, or hearing, issue a written notice to the permit holder or operator citing such condition and stating that the permit is immediately suspended and that all swimming or bathing of any kind is to be immediately discontinued.”

The following are some situations which would be considered immediate hazards to the public which would mandate closure of a public/semi private/wading pool or whirlpool or spray pad:

- Failure to provide and maintain an enclosure or barrier to inhibit unauthorized access to the aquatic facility or aquatic venue when required.
- Gates and doors are not self-closing and self-latching.
- Unprotected underwater electrical wires or exposed wiring in the pump room.
- Virginia Graeme Baker (VGB): Broken, unsecured, or missing main drain gate or any unprotected submerged suction outlet in the aquatic venue.
- Aquatic venue bottom not clearly visible; unable to see main drain.
- Damaged or missing required lifesaving equipment (ring buoy & life hook).
- Required minimum disinfectant residual is not maintained at any time the aquatic venue is open to bathers. Failure to provide the minimum disinfectant residual levels results in immediate closure.
 - Disinfectant levels are below or above the acceptable range:

	Stabilized Chlorine	Un-stabilized Chlorine	Combined Chlorine	Bromine	pH
Pool	1.0ppm-5.0ppm	1.0ppm-5.0ppm	0.4ppm maximum	2.0ppm-8.0ppm	7.0-8.0
Hot Tub	2.0ppm-5.0ppm	2.0ppm-5.0ppm	0.4ppm maximum	3.0ppm-8.0ppm	7.0-8.0

* pH level is to be maintained 7.2-8.0 to ensure bather comfort and efficacy of chlorine.

- Failure to have cyanuric acid ≤ 100 ppm.
- Fecal accident has occurred.
- Maximum water temperature is greater than 104°F.

The duration of closure is determined by the specific reason(s) and the length of time required to correct the specific hazard(s).

Once our Department has been notified by the owner, manager or operator that the condition(s) for which the aquatic venue had been closed is/are corrected, every effort will be made to re-inspect and re-open the public/semi private/wading pool or whirlpool or spray pad as quickly as possible.