



Shasta County

DEPARTMENT OF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
1855 Placer Street, Redding, CA 96001

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Director

MEMORANDUM

TO: Owners and Operators of Public Swimming Pools and Spas in Shasta County

FROM: Shasta County Environmental Health Division

DATE: March 4, 2013

SUBJECT: CHANGES TO PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL SAFETY SIGN REQUIREMENTS

Chapter 31b of the California Building Code updates went into effect on September 1, 2012, that includes new safety sign requirements for public swimming pools. In cases where changes to existing signs are specified, the Environmental Health Division (EHD) will require these new signs when the existing signs are deteriorated and due for replacement. However, two new signs are now required and should be installed at this time. The following section from Chapter 31B of the California Building Code details the specific requirements for all and ***NEW*** signs. For a complete copy of this Chapter, please visit: http://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/drm_index/eh_index/ehd_programs/pools.aspx

California Building Code SECTION 3120 REQUIRED SIGNS:

3120B.1 General. All signs shall have clearly legible letters or numbers not less than 4 inches (102 mm) high, unless otherwise required in this section, affixed to a wall, pole, gate or similar permanent structure in a location visible to all pool users.

3120B.2 Pool user capacity sign. A sign shall indicate the maximum number of pool users permitted for each pool.

3120B.2.1 Spa pool. The pool user capacity of a spa pool shall be based on one pool user for every 10 square feet (0.929 m²) of pool water surface area.

3120B.2.2 Other pools. The pool user capacity for all other pools shall be based on one pool user for every 20 square feet (1.858 m²) of pool water surface area.

Exception: Pool user capacity requirements do not apply to wading pools or spray grounds.

3120B.3 No diving sign. Signs shall be posted in conspicuous places and shall state, “**NO DIVING**” at pools with a maximum water depth of 6 feet or less.

3120B.4 No lifeguard sign. Where no lifeguard service is provided, a warning sign shall be posted stating, “**WARNING: NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY.**” The sign also shall state in letters at least 1 inch (25 mm) high, “**Children under the age of 14 shall not use pool without a parent or adult guardian in attendance.**”

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3120B.5 Artificial respiration and CPR sign. An illustrated diagram with text at least 1/4 inch (6 mm) high of artificial respiration and CPR procedures shall be posted.

3120B.6 Emergency sign. The emergency telephone number **911**, the number of the nearest emergency services and the name and street address of the pool facility shall be posted.

3120B.7 Warning sign for a spa pool. A warning sign for spa pools shall be posted stating, "CAUTION" and shall include the following language in letters at least 1 inch (25 mm) high:

1. **Elderly persons, pregnant women, infants and those with health conditions requiring medical care should consult with a physician before entering the spa.**
2. **Unsupervised use by children under the age of 14 is prohibited.**
3. **Hot water immersion while under the influence of alcohol, narcotics, drugs or medicines may lead to serious consequences and is not recommended.**
4. **Do not use alone.**
5. **Long exposure may result in hyperthermia, nausea, dizziness or fainting.**

3120B.8 Emergency shut off. In letters at least one inch (25 mm) high a sign shall be posted at the spa emergency shut off switch stating, "EMERGENCY SHUT OFF SWITCH."

3120B.9 No use after dark. Where pools were constructed for which lighting was not required, a sign shall be posted at each pool entrance on the outside of the gate(s) stating, "NO USE OF POOL ALLOWED AFTER DARK."

3120B.10 Keep closed. (*NEW*) A sign shall be posted on the exterior side of gates and doors leading into the pool enclosure area stating, "KEEP CLOSED."

3120B.11 Diarrhea. (*NEW*) A sign in letters at least 1 inch (25 mm) high and in a language or diagram that is clearly stated shall be posted at the entrance area of a public pool which states that persons having currently active diarrhea or who have had active diarrhea within the previous 14 days shall not be allowed to enter the pool water.

3120B.13 Spray ground sign. A sign shall be posted at each spray ground and be visible from any part of the spray ground that states, "CAUTION: WATER IS RECIRCULATED. DO NOT DRINK."

3120B.16 Turn on before entering. Where automatic gaseous chemical feeders are used, a sign shall be posted at the switch to the light and ventilation system for the gaseous chemical feeder room stating, "TURN ON BEFORE ENTERING," or as otherwise required by the California Fire Code or the California Electrical Code.

3119B.2 Gates.

3. The pool enclosure shall have at least one means of egress without a key for emergency purposes. Unless all gates or doors are so equipped, those gates and/or doors which will allow egress without a key shall have a sign in letters at least 4 inches (102 mm) high stating **EMERGENCY EXIT**.