

Re-Opening Guidelines for Public Swimming Pools



This guidance is intended to convey the message of Governor Hogan and the Maryland Strong: Roadmap to Recovery as it relates to Calvert County residents, business owners, workers and visitors at this moment in time. The Roadmap lays out important guiding principles:

Employers and employees should continue with telework plans.

Marylanders should continue to wear face coverings or masks in indoor public places.

Marylanders should continue to practice physical distancing.

The following are to remain closed: wading (kiddie) pools, spas (hot tubs), spray or splash pads, aquatic center and lazy river pools.

- » Outdoor swimming pools may open after determining the maximum number of people who may be in the pool while safely social distancing (1 person per 50 sq. ft. is recommended).
- » Patrons must maintain six feet of social distance while in the pool and on the grounds unless members are of the same household.
- » Pool operators must implement social distancing measures for all staff and patrons.
- » Consider a reservation system for pool attendance. Each day can be split into 2 or 3 blocks of time with each block lasting for 2-3 hours. 30-60 minutes should separate each block to allow for cleaning. The maximum number of patrons per block of time equals the 1 person per 50 sq. ft. recommendation.
- » Staff should wear face coverings outside the water when interacting with others.
- » Patrons should wear face coverings outside the water whenever possible.
- » Pools must have a sign-in/sign-out sheet for all patrons and keep records available for 30 days.
- » Provide and use one-way valve masks for CPR, if available.
- » To protect against COVID-19, maintain chlorine and pH levels per current regulations, including shock or super-chlorination as needed.
- » Pools must maintain a supply of soap and hand sanitizer for patrons' use, as well as an ample supply of pool equipment like noodles and kickboards to minimize sharing each day.
- » Patrons should be discouraged from sharing objects that are difficult to clean, sanitize, or disinfect or that are meant to come in contact with the face (goggles, nose clips, snorkels, etc.).
- » Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces such as pool railings, deck furniture, water fountains, doorknobs, and entry gates twice per day, or more often in high-touch areas.
- » Train staff on guidelines and product instructions for cleaning and disinfecting. Follow instructions for use and storage of cleaning and disinfection products on the product label.
- » People who are ill or who have sick family members should not be at the pool for 14 days following onset of symptoms.
- » All pool operators shall post signs telling patrons not to enter if sick, post handwashing reminders, cover your cough reminders, and reminders to shower before entering the pool (signs are available at: <https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/pages/business-resources>).
- » Notify the local health department that the pool will open and operating permit has been issued.

**Requirements may change at any point contingent on health necessities or new directives from the Governor's Office.*