

Pool Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)

The following are frequently asked questions or general inquiries that our department receives regarding the public pool/spa inspection program. For more detailed information, or if your question isn't answered here, please contact our office.

How often do you inspect public swimming pools/spas?

We are required to inspect all public pools/spas at least once per year. However, we attempt to inspect all outdoor pools/spas at least twice per season (Memorial Day to Labor Day), and indoor pools/spas throughout the year as our schedules permit.

Why is my homeowner's association/apartment/country club pool/spa inspected...it's a "private" pool/spa?

According to Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rule 3701-31-01(0), a private residential swimming pool" means any "pool" located at a dwelling housing *no more than three (3) families* and used exclusively by the residents and their non-paying guests. Because most homeowner's associations, apartments, country clubs, hotels, etc. accommodate more than three (3) families and sometimes have paying guests, they are, in fact, considered "public" swimming pools/spas.

Is my public pool required to have a lifeguard?

In general, public pools less than 2000 square feet (sf) are not required to have a lifeguard, unless they have more than fifty (50) bathers. Some pool designs or features require a lifeguard. The number of lifeguards required to be on duty depends on the square footage of the pool, the number of bathers, and various other reasons.

My pool offers an "Adult Swim" when the lifeguards take their break. Is this allowed?

Public pools that are required to have lifeguards on duty may offer an "Adult Swim" period; however, lifeguards must be on duty during this time. OAC Chapter 3701-31 does not make any distinction between the ages of bathers when requiring lifeguards.

I've seen you with your test kit...what do you test for?

During a routine inspection, we will test the Chlorine or Bromine level (disinfectant), pH, Total Alkalinity, and Temperature. We also test for Cyanuric Acid as applicable.