

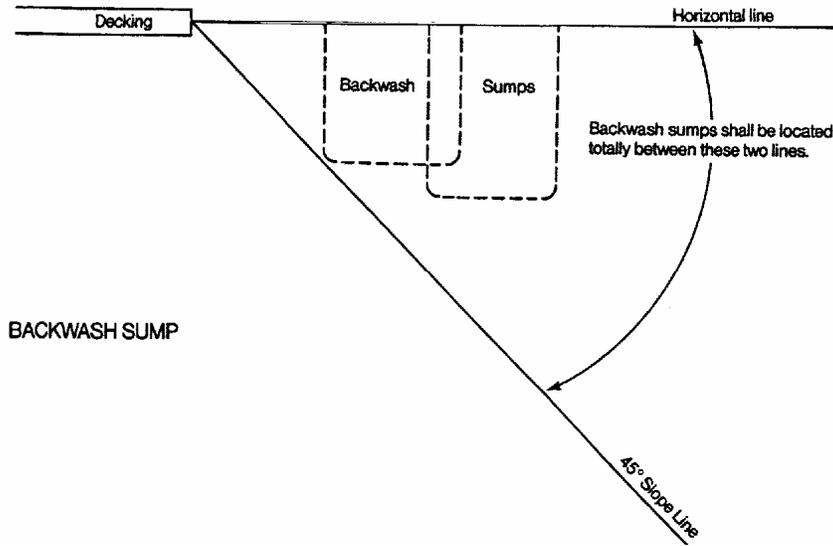
# Clayton County Environmental Health Public Swimming Pool Program

## Clayton County Board of Health Swimming Pool Regulations

### Section -.06 Decks and Deck Equipment.

- (1) These requirements shall be for decks and deck equipment used by users and shall apply at the time of construction.
  - (a) Deck(s) shall be designed and installed in accordance with the engineering practices required in the area of installation. This includes the design and quality of subbase when required, concrete mix design, reinforcing, joints, etc. If a concrete deck is selected, in the absence of specific local engineering practices, the work shall be performed in accordance with the recommended practices of the latest edition of American Concrete Institute (ACI) Standard 302.1R-80, "Guide for Concrete Floor and Slab Construction."
  - (b) Decks, ramps, coping and similar step surfaces shall be slip-resisting and easily cleanable.
  - (c) Special features in or on deck(s) such as markers, brand insignias or similar shall conform to this Chapter.
  - (d) Risers for steps for the deck shall be uniform and have a minimum height of three and three-fourths inches (3 3/4") and a maximum height of seven and one-half inches (7 1/2"). The minimum tread depth shall be ten inches (10").
  - (e) Excavation areas shall be adequately compacted when they support the deck(s).
  - (f) The deck, including coping, shall have a minimum four feet (4') width of continuous, unobstructed walking area maintained at all times.
  - (g) A minimum four foot (4') deck width shall be provided on the sides and rear of any diving equipment. A deck clearance of twenty-four inches (24") shall be provided around any other deck equipment that is thirty-six inches (36") or less in height above the deck. A deck clearance of thirty-six inches (36") shall be provided around all other deck equipment.
  - (h) A four foot (4') minimum, continuous unobstructed deck, which may include the coping, shall be provided around at least 50 percent or more of a spa.
  - (i) The minimum slope of the deck(s) shall be one-eighth inch per one foot (1/8":1').

- (j) The maximum voids between adjoining concrete slabs, and/or between concrete slabs and expansion joint material, shall be three-sixteenths inch (3/16") of horizontal clearance with a maximum difference in vertical elevation of one-fourth inch (1/4").
- (k) Construction joints where pool coping meets deck(s) shall be watertight and shall not allow water to pass to the ground beneath.
- (l) The areas where the deck(s) join the pool and spa coping shall be designed and installed so as to protect the coping and its mortar bed from damage as a result of reasonable movement of adjoining deck(s).
- (m) Joints in deck(s) shall be provided to minimize the potential for cracks due to a change in elevations, separation of surfaces or movement of the slab.
- (n) The areas where the deck(s) join(s) concrete work shall be protected by expansion joints to protect the pool adequately from the pressures of relative movements.
- (o) Deck(s) shall be edged, have a radius, or be otherwise relieved to eliminate sharp corners.
- (p) Deck(s) shall be sloped to effectively drain either to perimeter areas or to deck drains. Drainage shall remove pool and spa splash water, deck cleaning water and rain water without leaving standing water.
- (q) Site drainage shall be provided so as to direct all perimeter deck drainage as well as general site and roof drainage away from the pool. When required, yard drains shall be installed to prevent the accumulation or puddling of site water in the general area of the deck(s) and related improvements.
- (r) If used, an open pit or leaching design for backwash sump purposes shall be located so that it falls completely below adjacent deck(s) and fully outside a line projected 45<sup>0</sup> downward and away from such deck(s), or shall be designed to accommodate local soil conditions and the volume of backwash (see diagram below).



- (s) Circulation system piping, other than that integrally included in the manufacture of the pool or spa, shall be subject to an induced static hydraulic pressure test (sealed system) at fifty (50) pounds per square inch (psi) for at least thirty (30) minutes or longer as determined by the local health authority. This test shall be performed before the deck is poured and the pressure shall be maintained through the deck pour.
  - (t) Valves installed in or under any deck(s) shall provide a minimum ten inches (10") diameter access cover and valve pit to facilitate servicing.
  - (u) A hose bibb and a vacuum breaker shall be provided for washing down the entire deck area.
  - (v) The deck area will be kept clean of all trash and debris.
- (2) **Entry/Exit:** All pools except spas, shall have at least two (2) means of entry/exit located so as to serve both ends of the pool. These shall consist of ladders, stairs or recessed treads, or a walking entry and may be used in combination. All treads shall have slip-resisting surfaces.
- (a) Where water depths are twenty-four inches (24") or less at the pool wall, such areas shall be considered as providing their own natural mode for entry/exit.
  - (b) For pools or water areas over thirty feet (30') in width, both sides of the deep portions of the pool shall have entries/exits provided.
  - (c) A means of entry/exit for the shallow end shall be located between the shallow end wall and the cross section at Point C, while a means of entry/exit for the deep end shall be between the deep end wall and the cross section at Point B as shown in Rule .05(6).

- (d) A means of entry/exit shall be provided at a minimum of every seventy-five (75) linear feet of pool wall or fraction thereof.
  - (e) Stairs, ladders and recessed treads shall be located so as not to interfere with racing lanes if applicable.
- (3) **Pool Stairs:** The design and construction of protruding and recessed pool stairs shall conform to the following:
- (a) Step treads shall have a minimum unobstructed horizontal depth of ten inches (10") and a minimum unobstructed surface area of two hundred forty (240) square inches.
  - (b) Risers at the centerline of the treads shall have a maximum uniform height of ten inches (10"), with the bottom riser height allowed to vary from two inches (2") to not more than ten (10").
  - (c) Each set of stairs shall be provided with at least one (1) handrail to serve all treads and risers. Handrails shall conform to the following:
    - 1. Handrails, if removable, shall be installed in such a way that they cannot be removed without the use of tools.
    - 2. The leading edge of handrails facilitating stairs and pool entry/exit shall be no more than eighteen inches (18") plus or minus three inches ( $\pm 3$ "), horizontally from the vertical plane of the bottom riser (where applicable).
    - 3. The outside diameter of handrails shall be between one inch (1") and one and nine-tenths inches (1.9").
  - (d) Underwater seats, benches or swimouts may be provided as part of the stairs or recessed treads.
- (4) **Pool Ladders:** The design and construction of pool ladder(s) shall conform to the following.
- (a) Pool ladders shall be made entirely of corrosion-resisting materials.
  - (b) Ladders shall provide two (2) handholds or two (2) handrails.
  - (c) Below the water level, there shall be a clearance of not more than six inches (6") nor less than three inches (3") between any ladder tread edge, measured from the pool wall side of the tread and the pool wall.
  - (d) The clear distance between ladder handrails shall be a minimum of seventeen inches (17") and a maximum of twenty-four inches (24").

- (e) There shall be a uniform height between ladder treads, with a seven inch (7") minimum distance and a twelve inch (12") maximum distance.
  - (f) Ladder treads shall have a minimum horizontal depth of one and one-half inches (1 ½").
- (5) **Recessed Treads:** The design and construction of recessed treads in the pool wall shall conform to the following.
- (a) Recessed treads at the centerline shall have a uniform vertical spacing of twelve inches (12") maximum and seven inches (7") minimum.
  - (b) The vertical distance between the pool coping edge, deck or step surface and the uppermost recessed tread shall be a maximum of twelve inches (12").
  - (c) Recessed treads shall have a minimum depth of five inches (5") and a minimum width of twelve inches (12").
  - (d) Recessed treads shall drain into the pool to prevent the accumulation of dirt.
  - (e) Each set of recessed treads shall be provided with a set of handrails/ grabrails/handholds to serve all treads and risers.
- (6) **Spa Entry/Exit:** Spas shall have a means of entry/exit at a minimum of every fifty (50') or portion thereof, where water depths are greater than twenty-four inches (24").
- (a) Rules .06 (4) and (5) shall apply to ladders and recessed treads in spas.
  - (b) Spas shall be equipped with at least one handrail (or ladder equivalent) for each fifty feet (50') of perimeter or portion thereof, to designate the point of entry and exit.
    1. Handrails shall be installed in such a way that they cannot be removed without the use of tools.
    2. The leading edge of a handrail in the spa shall be no more than eighteen inches (18") plus or minus three inches ( $\pm 3$ ") horizontally from the vertical plane of the bottom riser (where applicable).
    3. The outside diameter of handrails shall be between one inch (1") and one and nine-tenths inches (1.9").

- (c) The design and construction of spa steps and seat benches, where used, shall conform to the following:
  - 1. Step treads shall have a minimum unobstructed horizontal depth of ten inches (10") for a minimum continuous width of twelve inches (12"). Step treads shall have slip-resisting surfaces.
  - 2. Riser heights shall not be greater than twelve inches (12"). Where the bottom tread serves as a bench or seat, the bottom riser may be a maximum of fourteen inches (14") above the spa floor.
  - 3. The first and last risers need not be uniform but shall comply with riser height requirements as noted above. The first (top) riser is measured from the finished deck.
  - 4. Intermediate risers, those between the first and last risers, shall be uniform in height.
  - 5. Each set of steps shall be provided with at least one (1) handrail to serve all treads and risers.
  - 6. The outer two inch (2") edge of each step shall be painted a contrasting color.
  
- (7) **Supports for Diving Equipment:** Supports, platforms, stairs, and ladders for diving equipment shall be designed to carry the anticipated loads. Stairs and ladders shall be of corrosion-resisting material, easily cleanable and with slip-resisting tread.
  - (a) All diving stands higher than twenty-one inches (21") measured from the deck to the top butt end of the board shall be provided with stairs and/or a ladder. Step treads shall be self-draining.
  - (b) Platforms and diving equipment of one(1) meter or higher shall be protected with guard rails which shall be at least thirty inches (30") above the diving board and extend to the edge of the pool wall. All platforms or diving equipment higher than one (1) meter shall have guard rails which are at least thirty-six inches (36") above the diving board and extend to the edge of the pool wall.
  
- (8) **Diving Equipment:** Diving equipment shall be designed for swimming pool use and shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.
  - (a) Diving equipment manufacturers shall provide installation instructions and specifications with each unit.
  - (b) A label shall be permanently affixed to the diving equipment or jump board and shall include:

1. manufacturer's name and address,
  2. board equipment length,
  3. identification as to diving or jump board,
  4. fulcrum setting specifications (if applicable).
- (c) Diving equipment shall have slip-resisting tread surfaces.
- (d) Diving equipment shall be permanently anchored to the pool deck. The edge of the board at the tip end shall be level with the water surface. The tip end of the board over the pool water surface may be higher than the butt end of the board.
- (e) Maximum board height over the water shall have plus three inches (+3") tolerance.
- (f) The maximum construction tolerance of the tip of the board from Point A as shown in Rule .05(6) shall be plus or minus three inches ( $\pm 3$ "). The diving equipment shall be in compliance with Rule .05(5).
- (9) The requirements of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) Standard for Swimming Pool Slides as published in the Code of Federal Regulations, 16 CFR Part 1207, shall be used for standards relating to swimming pool slides. Installation and use instructions shall be provided with each unit by the manufacturer.
- (10) Play structures and other equipment shall be governed by other appropriate authorities such as building codes, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), and amusement ride regulations.