



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

**ROY COOPER** • Governor  
**MANDY COHEN, MD, MPH** • Secretary  
**MARK T. BENTON** • Assistant Secretary for Public Health  
Division of Public Health

February 13, 2020

**Memorandum**

**TO:** Registered Environmental Health Specialists, Program Supervisors, and Managers

**FROM:** Alice Isley, Program Manager  
Pools, Tattoos, and State Institutions

**SUBJECT:** Guidance regarding the use of amenities within the pool fence area.

**DISCUSSION AND RATIONALE:**

Questions regarding whether a valid permit is necessary for use of amenities within the pool fence area and what lighting is required.

**RESPONSE/INTERPRETATION:**

Owners should obtain a year-round pool permit when areas within the pool fence are accessible to the public on a year-round basis. The owner may post a "pool closed" sign if they do not want the pool used for swimming. A "Warning- No Lifeguard on Duty" sign must be posted when the area is accessible, and no lifeguard is present. The fence and self-closing gates must be maintained.

If the area within the pool barrier is to be used at night, lighting is required per Session Law 2017-209.

Year-round pools require two inspections per year. If the "pool closed" sign is posted during the second inspection, the environmental health specialist should use a status code "C".

Contact your Environmental Health Regional Specialist if you have any further questions.

**REFERENCES**

Rules Governing Public Swimming Pools, 15A NCAC 18A .2500  
Session Law 2017-209

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