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AQUATIC FACILITIES COVID-19 INFORMATION

There have of late been limited and mixed messages from both Federal and State Governments regarding whether certain facilities can remain open or not during the current COVID-19 pandemic. The Department of Health (WA) have now provided information regarding Aquatic Facilities which will clarify any uncertainties and requirements for Aquatic Facility operators and owners.

The current requirements are that all Aquatic Facilities including swimming pools, float tanks, and spa pools are to stay closed until further notice with the primary intentions being to protect patrons and residents from the highly and infections COVID-19 virus and eliminating all potential risks. Hydrotherapy pools are exempt from these requirements due providing a service for medical purposes, with the only condition being that there can only be two people in the pool at any time.

During facility closures the operator will need to ensure they maintain water quality as per the requirements outlined in Section 5 of the Code of Practice for Aquatic Facilities. The objectives of an operator should be to:

- Ensure the water is properly disinfected at all times
- Ensure water clarity is maintained and algae growth prevented.
- Ensure the facility is secured and cannot be accessed by unauthorised persons (e.g. children).
- Keep log books up to date and record closures dates.

Routine monthly water sampling and testing will cease until facilities reopen; please be reminded of your responsibility to inform the City prior to reopening the facility once the COVID-19 pandemic is over and the State and/or Federal Governments have announced that it is safe to do so. As an additional measure, you can place the enclosed notice (amend as required) in a visible location or distribute to inform your patrons/residents of the closure.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kim Hansson'.

Kim Hansson
Trainee Environmental Health Officer
Environmental Health