



# Environmental Health Outlook

A publication of the Clay County Public Health Center ♦ Section of Environmental Health

## Pool/Spa Program Activities in 2021

In 2021, the Clay County Public Health Center’s Pool/Spa program completed 151 more inspections and trained 21 more pool operators than the 2020 inspection year. The COVID-19 pandemic, has heavily impacted pool operations over the last couple of years, as a result not all pools/spas were operational in 2021. All trending violations from the past few years did see a decrease in 2021. However, the following violations are continually at the top of the violations list: disinfectant residual not within the required range; pH not maintained within required range; operations/records not maintained; total alkalinity not maintained within required range; and emergency phone not operational. To minimize the hazards to public health and safety of patrons attending recreational water facilities, prompted corrective action and long term compliance with these trending violations is imperative.

Critical/ Non-Critical Violations	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Disinfectant residual not within the required range *	49	38	68	49	36
Pool operating records are not maintained as required	39	29	65	43	27
The pH is not maintained within required range*	39	25	47	24	16
Total alkalinity is not maintained within required range	24	34	41	16	19
Cyanuric Acid is used, not maintained within required range	29	17	41	5	20
Emergency phone is not readily accessible/operational*	20	12	20	19	23
Pool Operating Permit not posted	7	10	20	0	0

\*critical violation

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## Pool/Spa Program Violation Activity in 2021

Total Inspections Conducted	476
Critical Violations Cited	130
Non Critical Violations Cited	185

Field inspectors will be providing education and training materials throughout 2022 to help reduce violations. Ask your inspector for any training materials that can help maintain the quality and safety of the pools/spas in your facility.

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## Top Violations Cited in 2021

	#Times Out
1. Disinfectant residual not within the required range*	49
2. The pH is not maintained within required range*	39
3. Pool operating records are not maintained as required	39
4. Flow rates/Turnover times	30
5. Cyanuric Acid if used, not maintained within required range	29
6. Total alkalinity is not maintained within required range	24
7. Emergency phone is not readily accessible/operational*	20
8. Combined Cl is not within required range	18
9. Water Clarity*	5
10. Chemical Storage/Signage	7
11. Pool Operating Permit not posted	4
12. Barriers/Enclosures not Self Closing/Self Latching*	3

\*critical violation

The top violations for pools and spas decreased in 2021. However, total alkalinity not maintained within required range and Pool Operating Permit not posted were noted out of compliance more often than compared to 2020. The top three noted violations for 2021 are: disinfectant residual within the required range\* (12% out of compliance), pH not maintained within required range\* (9.6% out of compliance), pool operating records are not maintained (9.6% out of compliance).

## Top Violations Comparison for 2020-2021

	2020	2021
1. Flow rates/Turnover times	61	30
2. Disinfectant residual not within the required range*	49	38
3. Pool operating records are not maintained as required	39	29
4. The pH is not maintained within required range*	39	25
5. Total alkalinity is not maintained within required range	24	34
6. Cyanuric Acid if used, not maintained within required range	29	17
7. Emergency phone is not readily accessible/operational*	20	12
8. Pool Operating Permit not posted	4	10

\*critical violation

## Qualified Operators - Manager Certified Training Programs

Qualified operators/managers are responsible for the operation and maintenance of the aquatic facility and taking the necessary steps to prevent pool related health and safety issues. Studies have shown that pools with operators who have successfully completed formal training have better water quality than pools without trained operators which leads to



better health for swimmers. Qualified Operators need to be available to attend to the venue as required, such as checking disinfectant levels prior to opening each day. Each aquatic facility must have a Qualified Operator that has completed an approved operator training course as determined by the Clay County Public Health Center.



<https://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/swimming/index.html>

## 2022 Pool Season Updates

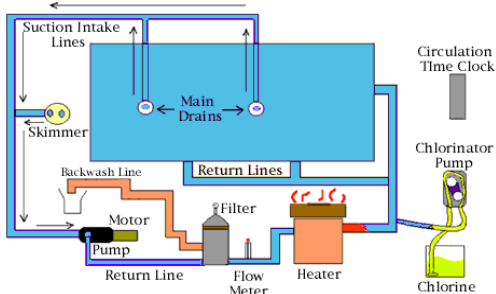
### Pool Records

If your facility uses a contracted pool management company, someone onsite must be trained to test the water and record chemical levels at least twice a day to comply with the regulations.

### Flow Rates/Turnover Times

Water turnover times are critical for proper filtration. The CDC recommends all pools or spas have a turnover rate of 6 hours or less. Water that is recirculated three to four times per day, or every six to eight hours, will achieve 95 to 98 percent dilution of contaminated pool water with water that has been filtered and disinfected.

**CERTIFIED POOL OPERATOR**  
**June 22-23, 2022 @ CCPHC**



### Certified Pool Operator Class

CPO certification provides individuals with the knowledge, techniques, and skills required for proper pool operations. National certification, valid for 5 years

Designed for daily pool and spa operators or maintenance staff at hotels, pool parks, public pools, etc.

The CPO class is taking place on June 22-23. Location is at the Clay County Public Health Center, 800 Haines Drive, Liberty MO 64068

Register at <https://www.pooltrainingacademy.com/>

## Pool Safety Excellence Award

Clay County Public Health Center is proud to recognize the recipients of the Pool Quality of Excellence Awards for outstanding efforts in 2021. This notable award recognizes facilities that continue to successfully follow the Clay County Rules and Regulations for Pools/Spas. These recipients exhibited excellent pool quality and safety practices during their inspection throughout the calendar year. In order to qualify for the award, facilities must meet multiple criteria such as: being open and in operation for the full year with no repeated violations, no follow-up inspections, no confirmed cases of water-borne illnesses, no imminent risk or safety violations, Virginia Gram Baker (VGB) compliant and pool operator/manager certification. This achievement encompasses 8 yearly pools, 2 yearly spas, 20 seasonal pools, 4 seasonal wading pools, and 1 sprayground. Facilities qualifying for the 2021 Pool Quality of Excellence Award represented 29% of Clay County regulated recreational water facilities.



**Broadway Village Apts**

**Cherokee Village**

**Clay Meadows HOA**

**Claymont Pointe HOA**

**Claywoods HOA**

**Cooper Ridge Living**

**Dagg Park**

**Elks Lodge #1001**

**Gladstone Community Center**

**Harbor Lake**

**Harborview HOA**

**Homestead HOA**

**Inn on Crescent Lake**

**Jamestowne Village**

**Liberty Community Center**

**Meadowbrook Townhouse**

**Meadows at Greenfield**

**North Kansas City Hospital**

**North Kansas City YMCA**

**One North Aloft-Element Hotel**

**Rollins Landing**

**Shadowbrook HOA**

**Stonebrooke Estates**

**The Elms Hotel and Spa**

**Village Garden Apartments**

**Withersfield HOA**

Certificates will be delivered to the facilities during upcoming inspections.