

## NEW HANOVER COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### APPROVAL AND INSPECTION INFORMATION FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL

The Department shall approve, disapprove, or provide written comments on plans and specifications for public swimming pools within 30 days of their receipt. If such action is not taken within 30 days, the plans and specifications are deemed approved. **Disclaimer: The 30 days will start on the "received review date" as set by New Hanover County's COAST system.**

Approval will be completed and provided within the Environmental Health (EH) review as part of the building permit. Please check the review comments, corrections, and recommendations with the review section of the permit. Also, a corrections report will be added as an attachment to each permit by NHC Building Safety which includes conditions of approval.

#### **The following items are required per 15A NCAC 18A .2500 Rules Governing Public Swimming Pools.**

1. If construction is not initiated within one year from the date of approval, the EH pool construction approval is void.
2. Before construction, construction permits must be obtained from the New Hanover County Building Safety Department at Government Center Dr. Wilmington, NC. In addition, the pool must be constructed by a contractor licensed to construct swimming pools by the North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors.
3. Any changes or modifications to the plans must be approved by this Department prior to construction.
4. The swimming pool contractor shall contact the health department when pool pipes are in place and visible so that the health department may conduct an open pipe inspection of the pool piping. Call (910) 798-6667 to schedule. *Note: If all piping is installed and inspected before the pool shell is completed, an additional inspection may be required to measure the stairs, benches, and/or handrails.*
5. Prior to final inspection and issuance of the operation permit, the owner needs to submit the following items to Environmental Health:
  - a. A registered professional engineer or registered architect must inspect the pool during construction and provide written verification that:
    - i. The pool was inspected by the engineer or architect throughout the construction of the pool.
    - ii. The pool is complete and in accordance with the approved plans and "Rules Governing Public Swimming Pools".
    - iii. The pool is compliant with all requirements in the Virginia Graeme Baker Act.
  - b. Completed Application for Public Swimming Pool Operation.
    - i. This process will require the owner of the pool/spa to submit a copy of the pool/spa operator's training certificate. This training certificate may be issued by the Pool and Hot Tub Alliance or other organization which provides training in pool equipment operation, disease, and injury prevention, pool water chemistry, and regulatory requirements for public swimming pools.
  - c. Completed and signed Pool Drain Safety Compliance Form for each pump.
  - d. Updated Public Swimming Pool Data Sheet.
  - e. As-built plans, if needed.
  - f. Specification sheet for bathroom mirrors being shatterproof if installed.
6. All required building inspections must be completed with a passed status before scheduling final inspections.
7. A final inspection must be made, and an operation permit must be issued before bathers can use the pool.

A blank version of the requested forms can be found under the Forms tab on the main COAST page at <https://www.nhcgov.com/coast/>.

If you have any questions, please contact NHC Environmental Health Services at (910) 798-6667.