



Iowa Department of Public Health

Iowa Swimming Pool and Spa Rules

Procedures Regarding Inspection Frequencies- IAC 641 Chapter 15.12 (3)

(Updated 10/24/17)

Special Inspections

When the Iowa Department of Public Health (department) or the local inspection agency determines that a special inspection is required the department or local inspection agency may complete a special inspection and charge a special inspection fee which shall be based on the actual cost of providing the inspection. Examples where a special inspection may be necessary include but are not limited to the following:

- Follow up to a previous inspection to assure that the appropriate corrective action has been completed as indicated.
- In response to a complaint regarding the facility.
- In response to a report of a recreational water illness.
- In response to a report of a chemical injury/exposure.
- In response to a reportable incident.
- In response to a request from a federal, state, or local agency.
- Other immediate public health concerns.

Periodic (Routine) Inspections

All operating facilities should be inspected on at least an annual basis. Seasonal pools should be inspected within the first month of operation. The department or the local inspection agency may adjust the inspection frequency if serious deficiencies were identified during previous inspections. The periodic (routine) inspection frequency may be increased to a maximum of four times per year in response to serious deficiencies. The normal facility inspection fee shall be billed for each of these additional inspections. The inspection frequency shall return to approximately an annual basis after three successive inspections with no serious deficiencies.

These periodic inspections are in addition to any special inspection required by complaints or follow-up to the inspections. Examples of serious deficiencies would include if the inspector directly observed or observed through a review of the facility records that a swimming pool or spa was in operation during any conditions in which the rules require closure of the pool or spa including but not limited to the following:

- Poor water clarity
- Disinfection levels above or below that required for operation in the rules
- ORP levels above or below that required for operation in the rules
- Cyanuric acid above that required for operation in the rules
- A positive check sample
- During and after chemical additions from deck
- A missing or broken suction outlet
- Noncompliance with VGB requirements
- Water temperature exceeding 104 degrees
- At the department's discretion in lieu of immediate enforcement action (i.e. order to close, revocation of registration) in instances when the facility fails to respond to follow through with appropriate corrective action.