



# THE IMPACT OF COVID-19

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## CORONAVIRUS UPDATES FOR AMERICA'S HOTEL OWNERS

### POOL SAFETY AND PRECAUTIONS DURING COVID-19

As both indoor and outdoor pools open around the country in the aftermath of COVID-19, AAHOA has compiled a list of suggestions to consider. Please note that this list is not exhaustive. We recommend vetting any procedures you implement with your legal counsel and training all staff (regardless of job duties) to ensure compliance with any new procedures. Additionally, be aware that local or state regulatory agencies may have additional or different requirements related to mass gatherings, pool openings, and other hotel operations in the wake of the pandemic. Your local county health department is a good resource to contact for this information.

- ❑ **Provide adequate hand hygiene resources (soap or hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol).**
  - ❑ **Place paper towels, tissues, and no-touch trash cans in the pool area.**
  - ❑ **Cloth face coverings**
    - Face coverings should not be worn in water as it may be difficult to breathe through wet cloth.
  - ❑ **Encourage anyone with symptoms to stay home and avoid the pool and other shared spaces.**
  - ❑ **Modify furniture layouts so individuals/groups may socially distance.**
  - ❑ **Post signage about stopping the spread of COVID-19 in highly visible areas.**
  - ❑ **Clean and disinfect frequently touched items and areas (e.g., handrails, lounge chairs, pool noodles, kickboards, door handles, surfaces of restrooms, handwashing stations, diaper-changing stations, and showers).**
    - For items such as outdoor furniture, have a process in place to keep disinfected furniture separate from furniture that needs to be cleaned.
    - When laundering towels, use the warmest temperatures possible and dry items completely.
- Utilize EPA-approved disinfectants that are designed for aquatic venues ([here](#)).**
- ❑ **For indoor pools:**
    - Ensure ventilation systems operate properly.
    - Increase introduction and circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors, using fans, and other methods. However, do not open windows and doors if doing so poses a safety risk to staff, patrons, or swimmers.
  - ❑ **Ensure all water systems (e.g., pools, hot tubs, and water fountains) are safe to use after a prolonged shut down to minimize the risk of Legionnaires' disease and other diseases associated with stagnant water ([here](#)).**

*AAHOA does not provide business or legal advice or representation to anyone. AAHOA goes to great lengths to ensure the information it provides is accurate and useful, but strongly recommends that all members consult a lawyer and obtain professional advice and representation that is appropriate to his/her particular situation.*

**FOR MORE INFORMATION | [COVID19@AAHOA.COM](mailto:COVID19@AAHOA.COM) | [WWW.AAHOA.COM/COVID-19](http://WWW.AAHOA.COM/COVID-19) | 404.816.5759**



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- **Add physical barriers and guides (e.g., tape) to help staff, patrons, and swimmers maintain social distancing guidelines.**
- **Ensure that lifeguards are only responsible for actively lifeguarding.**
  - They should NOT be expected to monitor handwashing, use of cloth face coverings, or social distancing of others. Assign this monitoring responsibility to other staff members.
- **Poolside F&B**
  - Review F&B resources and guidelines for your local jurisdiction.
- **The American Heart Association states the following regarding CPR (click [here](#)).**
  - CPR with breaths is recommended for people who have been trained in CPR.
  - If you do not feel comfortable giving breaths, or are concerned about COVID-19, you can consider only performing Hands-Only CPR until help arrives. If you choose Hand-Only CPR, first call 9-1-1 and state your concerns to the emergency response communicator.
  - If performing breaths, you can use a barrier device, such as a mask, to help protect yourself from COVID-19.
  - Remember, Hands-Only CPR is better than no CPR.
- **Review these recommendations for swim academies/lessons taught at hotel pool.**
  - Resume lessons starting with private (1:1) and semi-private (2:1) classes.
  - Limit the number of families in your swim facility at any one time.
  - Ask parents to escort their swimmer(s) to their swim instructor in addition to slightly staggered class start times.
  - Ask each swim family to attend with only ONE parent per swimmer.
  - Changing rooms and showers should be closed unless heightened cleaning procedures can be implemented. Ask students to come lesson-ready and to plan on changing out of swimsuits at home.
- **Check the pool for regular maintenance of well-balanced, chlorinated water to kill bacteria and viruses.**

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