



## **Cohasset Board of Public Health**

### **Residential Swimming Pools Regulations**

**As authorized by Sec. 31, Chap. 111 of Massachusetts General Laws, the  
Cohasset Board of Public Health makes the following Cohasset  
Regulations Governing Residential Swimming Pools**

**Approved September 20, 2022**

## **COHASSET REGULATIONS GOVERNING RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOLS**

As authorized by Sec. 31, Chap. 111 of the Massachusetts General Laws, the Cohasset Board of Public Health makes the following **Cohasset Regulations Governing Residential Swimming Pools**:

### **Regulation 1: Definitions**

- a. **Residential Swimming Pool** means a swimming pool established or maintained by an individual for their own or family's use, or for use of personal guests of their household. The pool may be located in the ground or above ground. This includes every artificial pool of water having a depth of two feet or more with a minimum of 2,000 gallons and used for swimming or bathing, located indoors or outdoors, together with the bathhouses, equipment, and appurtenances used in connection with the pool.

### **Regulation 2: Approval**

- a. No person shall construct or install a Residential Swimming Pool or remodel or otherwise make any structural or operational change in an existing pool until the Board of Public Health has approved such construction, installation, remodeling or change as not in reasonable likelihood endangering the public health. Adequate plans and specifications for such construction, installation, remodeling, or change shall be submitted to the Board of Public Health at the time of the request for its approval thereof.
- b. The Board of Public Health shall be notified of completion of the construction, installation, or remodeling of, or structural or operational change in a residential pool approved by it under the immediately preceding paragraph, and no use shall be made of such pool until such construction, installation, remodeling, or change has been inspected by it and found to have been done in accordance with the proposal.

### **Regulation 3: Filtration Systems**

- a. After the effective date (September 20, 2022) of these regulations, all Residential Swimming Pools shall be equipped with and operated with a system for recirculation and purification of the pool water, approved by the Board of Public Health as not in reasonable likelihood endangering public health.

### **Regulation 4: Water Source**

- a. Water to be used in any Residential Pool shall be obtained from a reputable commercial or public source.

**Regulation 5: Cross Connections**

- a. No piping arrangement shall exist which under any circumstance will permit water from any Residential Swimming Pool or re-circulation system to enter any domestic water supply, or will permit sewage, wastewater, or any water of unknown or questionable quality to enter the pool or pool piping system.

**Regulation 6: Location**

- a. Every Residential Swimming Pool shall be located at least 20 feet from a cesspool, 10 feet from a septic tank, 20 feet from a subsurface leaching field, 10 feet from a cellar wall, and 10 feet from a slab foundation.

**Regulation 7: Wastewater Disposal**

- a. Wastewater resulting from the draining and cleaning of a Residential Swimming Pool, or backwash water resulting from the cleaning of the filter apparatus, must be dechlorinated prior to discharge.
- b. Under no circumstances may water from a Residential Swimming Pool be drained into a storm drain or into wetlands.
- c. Residential Swimming Pools are subject to applicable local building, plumbing and electrical code requirements.

**Regulation 8: Fencing Requirements**

- a. The owner of any Residential Swimming Pool shall erect a durable fence at least four feet in height, completely and firmly secured to the ground, encompassing the pool with a self-latching gate. If the fence is constructed of an opaque material a board, stockade or vinyl structure, the height shall be at least 4 feet, and no more than 6 feet, with no openings larger than 3 inches. Over that height the fence must be constructed from chain link, or any other material approved by the Building Inspector and must include a self-latching gate with latches placed 4 feet above the ground.
- b. The owner of any above ground pool must follow the same requirements as listed above (a.). A free-standing above ground pool requires a fold up ladder that locks. The ladder must be in the fold up position when the pool is not in use.
- c. Pools in existence on September 20, 2022, which were fenced at that time with a fence no less than four feet in height shall be deemed to comply with the above fencing requirements provided that the ladder or other points of access to the pool is enclosed by the fence and the fence is equipped with a self-closing, self-locking gate.

**Separability:**

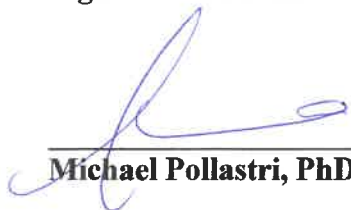
So far as the Board of Public Health may provide, each section of these regulations shall be construed as separate to the end that if any section, sentence, clause, or phrase shall be held invalid for any reason, the remainder of these regulations shall continue in full force.

**Adoption:**

These regulations were adopted by unanimous vote of the Cohasset Board of Public Health, Town of Cohasset, Massachusetts on September 20, 2022, and are to be in full force and effect on and after September 20, 2022.

**LEGAL NOTICE PRINTED IN  
THE PATRIOT LEDGER  
ON: September 06, 2022  
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**Signed: 10/22/2022**

  
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**Michael Pollastri, PhD, Chairman**

  
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**Elizabeth Kirkpatrick, Vice Chair**

  
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**Robin Lawrence, DDS, MPH, Clerk**