



SWIMMING POOL / HOT TUB

A MONTHLY SAFETY TOPIC
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INTRODUCTION

Swimming pools and hot tubs are great places to relax and have fun, but it is important to take safety precautions to prevent accidents. The electrical equipment and water create a dangerous situation, so proper maintenance and safeguards are crucial to ensure a safe environment.

Portable electrical equipment and cords used around the pool or hot tub pose a potential electrical shock hazard. Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCI) are necessary to protect swimmers from electric shock.

Do's and Don'ts

- Ensure that all electrical receptacles within 20 feet of the pool or hot tub are GFCI protected
- Place depth markers around the pool and hot tub to show the water depth
- Provide safety equipment such as life preservers and floats for children
- Prohibit running and emphasize the use of stairs, handrails, or ladders when entering or exiting the pool or hot tub
- Check and clean the pool or hot tub daily and test chemicals regularly
- Post emergency numbers or 911 near the pool or hot tub
Inspect hot tub covers regularly to ensure they are securely attached
- Install fences, straps, or locks to prevent young children from accessing the hot tub

MAINTENANCE

- ✓ Determine who is responsible for the pool or hot tub (e.g. condo association or owner)
- ✓ Conduct annual inspections and preventive maintenance on electrical systems
- ✓ Clean the pool or hot tub daily during high use and regularly at other times
- ✓ Test chemicals every 2 hours or more frequently as required by local laws
- ✓ Inspect and maintain hot tubs annually by a professional
- ✓ Post emergency phone numbers and a sign saying "No lifeguard on duty, swim at your own risk" if there is no lifeguard

Verification Steps:

- Verify proper functioning GFCI for all electrical receptacles near the water's edge of the pool or hot tub
- Verify proper functioning GFCI in the branch circuit supplying lighting within the pool or hot tub
- Verify GFCI protection for all branch circuits supplying pool or hot tub pump motors
Verify the presence of depth markers and safety signs
- Verify the provision of safety equipment such as life preservers and floats for children
- Verify the cleaning and testing of chemicals daily or as required by local laws
- Verify the posting of emergency numbers or 911 near the pool or hot tub
- Verify the inspection of hot tub covers and latches
- Verify the installation of fences, straps, or locks to prevent young children from accessing the hot tub
- Verify the inspection and maintenance of hot tubs annually by a professional

CONCLUSION

By following the safety guidelines, pool and hot tub owners can ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone. Regular maintenance and verification of safety equipment and precautions can reduce the risk of accidents and keep the pool or hot tub in good condition. It is important to take the necessary steps to create a safe and healthy environment for everyone who uses the pool or hot tub.