

# YUBA COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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## **FECAL, VOMIT, BLOOD CONTAMINATION & NEAR-DROWNING OR DROWNING INCIDENT RESPONSE AT PUBLIC POOLS, SPAS, OR WADING POOLS**

In responding to a fecal, vomit, blood contamination, near-drowning, or drowning incident, the pool operator shall perform the following disinfection procedures:

1. The pool operator shall immediately close the affected pool, spa or wading pool to pool users. If the public pool, spa, or wading pool is one of multiple public pools that use the same filtration system, then all interconnected pools shall be closed to pool users. No one shall be allowed to enter the public pool(s) until the disinfection procedures have been completed.
2. The pool operator shall remove the contaminating material and discharge the contaminating material directly to the sanitary sewer or other approved wastewater-disposal process. The pool operator shall clean and disinfect the item used to remove the contaminating material.
3. The pool operator shall ensure that the pH of the pool water is 7.5 or lower.
4. The pool operator shall measure and maintain the public pool water temperature at 77° or higher.
5. The pool operator shall ensure that the filtration system is operating.
6. The pool operator shall disinfect the pool as follows:

### **FORMED FECAL STOOL OR VOMIT**

- Raise the free-chlorine concentration to 2 ppm (if less than 2 ppm) for at least 25 minutes.

### **DIARRHEAL ACCIDENT**

- Raise the free-chlorine concentration in the pool to 20 ppm and maintain that concentration for at least 12.75 hours.
- If the pool water contains a chlorine stabilizer such as cyanuric acid, the pool operator shall lower the pH to 6.5 and raise the free-chlorine concentration in the pool to 40 ppm and maintain that concentration for at least 30 hours.

### **BLOOD CONTAMINATION**

- Check the free-chlorine concentration in the pool at the time of the incident. If it is below the minimum free-chlorine required, the pool operator shall immediately close the public pool until the required minimum free-chlorine concentration is achieved.
7. The pool operator shall test the free-chlorine residual at multiple points to ensure the required free-chlorine concentration is achieved throughout the pool water.
  8. The pool operator shall replace any affected cartridge filters and shall backwash non-cartridge filters after the disinfection process has been completed. The pool operator shall

ensure the effluent is discharged directly to the sanitary sewer or other approved wastewater-disposal process. The pool operator shall not return the filter backwash water to the pool and shall replace the filter media if necessary.

9. The pool operator shall not allow pool users back into the pool until the disinfection process has been completed and the free-chlorine concentration and pH of the public pool water have returned to normal operating ranges.

The pool operator shall immediately document each fecal, vomit, blood contamination, near-drowning or drowning incident and maintain records as follows:

1. The date and time of the incident, the affected pool, the available free-chlorine concentrations, pool temperature and pH at the time of the incident, and the facts known about the circumstances and cause of the incident. This information shall also be documented after the pool operator has completed the disinfection process and again when reopening the pool to pool users.
2. Whether fecal stool was formed or diarrheal.
3. The procedures followed in responding to the contamination incident.
4. The number of pool users in the pool and the length of time between the occurrence, detection, and resolution of the incident.