

Mecklenburg County Public Health Spa Construction Checklist

Spa Plan Review Items

- Building, Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing tied to spa projects must pass final inspection before a final will be scheduled.
- Provide a final stamped set of plans/drawings for review during final including all changes from original plan approval and as-builts.
- Provide engineer/architect letter. Any changes to approved plans must be noted on letter. **“A statement signed by a registered design professional stating that construction is complete and in accordance with approved plans and specifications and approved modifications. Observation of construction and a final inspection for design compliance by the certifying registered design professional or his representative are required for this statement.”**
- Provide address verification form. Form can be found on the Code Enforcement website at charmeck.org or click [here](#).
- Provide an accurate Pool Drain Safety Compliance form. Form can be found on our website at meckpools.charmeck.org. Features will require a separate form.

Spa Structure Items

- Skimmers* – NSF listed. All weirs in place and covers/baskets in good repair. Suction to pump will be verified in skimmers. Number of skimmers matches plan.
- Inlets and Fittings* – Must be in good repair and in place. Meets required amount per plans. Returns must be operable.
- Spa Steps* – Maximum of 12” rise. Shall be within 1” of uniform step except for bottom step. Allowed to vary plus or minus 2”.
- Contrasting Color Bands* – 2” wide contrasting color band to edge of step or 2” x 2” tile no greater than 1” from step edge, adjacent edge, and pool walls.
- Underwater Benches* – Installed in water no greater than 4’ deep. Max seat depth of 2’ from water surface and no more than 18” from wall.
- Handrails* – Equipped with at least one handrail in good repair. If a saltwater spa, handrails shall be marine grade.
- Spa Depth* – Maximum of 4’ depth.
- Suction Outlets* – Drain covers must be secure, intact and in good repair. Screws shall be in place and visible. Covers shall meet VGB requirements – APSP standards. Must be able to handle max flow from the pump. No protrusions greater than 2” from pool wall. Drain covers must match submitted PDSC form. No equalizers installed at pool and plugged per State recommendations.
- Field Built Sumps/Manufactured Sumps* – Field built sumps will require engineer certification. If manufactured sump, provide mfg. cut sheet showing compatibility with drain cover and sump dimensions.
- Vacuum Fittings* – Vacuum ports must have a self-closing cap designed to be opened with a tool. Located at least 6”, no greater than 18” below water level.
- Pool Plaster* – Light reflectance must reflect >50% of light. If plaster differs from original plan approval, provide light reflectance value (LRV).

Spa Premises and Safety

- *Emergency Phone* – Provide a designated line. Must connect to 911. 911 must have the correct location information and phone number for the pool. A sign posted with dialing instructions, spa address and phone number located at emergency phone. Posted phone number shall audibly ring the emergency phone or phone shall automatically answer once number dialed. Located inside the pool enclosure or outside the enclosure within 75' of a bather entrance. Visible from all areas of pool deck. If not visible, provide additional signage.
- *Signage* – Exact wording required with ½" lettering.
 - CAUTION:
 - Pregnant women; elderly persons and persons suffering from heart disease, diabetes, or high or low blood pressure should not enter the spa/hot tub without prior medical consultation and permission from their doctor;
 - Do not use the spa/hot tub while under the influence of alcohol, tranquilizers, or other drugs that cause drowsiness or that raise or lower blood pressure;
 - Do not use alone;
 - Unsupervised use by children is prohibited;
 - Enter and exit slowly;
 - Observe reasonable time limits (that is, 10-15 minutes), then leave the water and cool down before returning for another brief stay;
 - Long exposure may result in nausea, dizziness, or fainting;
 - Keep all breakable objects out of the area.
 - A sign shall be posted requiring a shower for each user prior to entering the spa or hot tub and prohibiting oils, body lotion, and minerals in the water.
- *Deck* – No protrusions greater than ½".
 - Over the rim fill spouts - No greater than 6" from handrails.
 - Continuous deck at least halfway around the spa. Walkway shall provide a minimum of 4' clear walking space.
 - Deck installed per plan approval. If varies, address by engineer through deck detail and engineer letter Deck shall be impervious surface per plan approval. Pavers may require polymeric sand in some instances.
 - Sloped to drain and slip-resistant.
- *Lighting* – Pools that operate at night must have sufficient lighting present to illuminate the main drains and interior of the swimming pool. All areas of the pool deck are clearly visible. Lighting fixtures are provided so that all parts of the pool including, water, depth markers, signs, entrances, safety equipment, required decking, restrooms, etc. are clearly visible.

Barrier – Fence and Gate Requirements –

- See Swimming Pool Permit Checklist. Standalone spas must meet rule requirement of .2528. Pool barrier considered spa barrier for spas located inside the same enclosure.

Equipment Room

- *Chemical Feeders* – NSF listed and in good working order. Flow meter installed per mfg. instructions, if required. Verify that what installed matches plan. Automated system must detect flow of pump and turn off with no flow.
- *Pump* – NSF listed. Sized properly for applicable turnover and according to plan.
- *Filter* – Installed per plan approval. Pressure gauge operable and shows pressure reading.
- *Flow Meter* – Installed according to manufacturer instructions. Must be operating properly and be capable of measuring at least 1 ½ times the design flow rate. Flow reading must meet the required flow for turnover. Required flow is on plan approval. Verified onsite after filter is backwashed.
- *Fill Line* – Installed after check valve. Check valve must meet rule .2512 in accordance with ANSI/ASSE. Autofill operational. Typically, ASSE 1013 check valve.

Equipment Room (cont.)

- Floor sloped to drain. ¼” per foot toward drains.
- Provide 3’ clear walking space around equipment and minimum of 7’ ceiling height around equipment.
- Continuous ventilation separate from lighting or cross-ventilation. Provide lighting. May require fresh air intake per mechanical code/approved plan.
- Hose bib with backflow prevention present.

Chemical Storage Room

- 7’ ceiling height.
- Storage space must meet minimum requirements per swimming pool plan (5 sq. ft for first 10,000 gallons, additional 1 sq. ft for each additional 3,000 gallons).
- Continuous ventilation separate from lighting or cross ventilation. May require fresh air intake per mechanical code/approved plan.
- Provide lighting.
- Shelving provided for dry storage (i.e. pallet, shelves, etc.).

Dressing and Sanitary Facilities

- Toilets and lavatories installed per approved plans. Required number of fixtures.
- Mirrors shatterproof or equipped with safety backing tape. If using safety backing tape, provide signed letter from installer indicating project, what was used, what mirrors have backing tape and where installed.
- Hose bib with backflow prevention present.
- Floor sloped to drain, drain present, and slip resistant.
- Shower installed and operational.
- Hot water no greater than 110 F.

Note: Any changes from the original approved plan (including any equipment changes) should be submitted to Environmental Health and approved prior to scheduling a construction final inspection. Please contact our Department in advance for approval and to submit any additional required paperwork. Changes that are not pre-approved may result in a \$250 in-field plan review fee and a potential delay in final construction approval.

This list is generalized and may not cover all variations specific to your swimming pool. If you have any questions prior to your inspection, please consult the NC Public Swimming Pool Rules or an inspector. The rules, this form and other information pertaining to pools may be found at: <http://meckpools.charmeck.org>.