

**MARICOPA COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CODE
CHAPTER VI**

**BATHING PLACES - PUBLIC AND
SEMIPUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS**

SECTION 9

SPAS

In addition to complying with the Regulations in Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 and all the Regulations in Section 6 (except Regulation 9) and Section 7 (except Regulation 1) of this Chapter, Spas shall comply with the following Regulations:

REGULATION 1. Depth

Spas shall have a maximum depth of 42 inches. The bottom shall have a maximum slope of one (1) foot in ten (10) feet and be finished with a non-slip surface. A set of entrance steps and handrails shall be installed. All steps, benches or other projections from the walls shall be outlined on the top surface edges by a continuous line of sharply contrasting colored tile or other suitable material that is clearly visible from the edge of the pool.

REGULATION 2. Circulation

Spas shall have a maximum turnover cycle of 30 minutes. A separate water recirculation and disinfection system from any other pool or spa shall be installed for spas. Therapy heads or other devices, which create roiling water or other similar effects, may not be connected to the recirculation system, but must be operated through a separate system. Dual main drains shall be provided. Skimmers shall be provided at the rate of one (1) skimmer for each 200 square feet of pool surface. Skimmer flow rates shall be the same as required for swimming pools. Where only one skimmer is provided, the main drains may be connected through the skimmer. Inlets shall be provided on a basis of at least one (1) for each 15 feet of pool periphery. Where three (3) or more inlets are required they shall be on a closed loop piping system.

REGULATION 3. Walkways

A minimum of four (4) feet of deck shall be provided on at least two (2) contiguous sides of the pool and 50 percent of the periphery. When applicable, the remaining deck shall not be more than eight (8) inches in width and shall be designed to preclude its use as a walkway.

REGULATION 4. Drains

A minimum of two (2) suction outlets shall be provided for each pump in a suction outlet system for a public or semipublic or spa. The suction outlets shall be separated by a minimum of three (3) feet or located on two (2) different planes such as one (1) suction outlet on the bottom and one (1) on a vertical wall or one (1) suction outlet each on two (2) separate vertical walls provided the three (3)-foot separation is always maintained. The suction outlets shall be plumbed to draw water through them simultaneously through a common line to the pump. Suction outlets shall be plumbed to eliminate the possibility of entrapping suction. All drains and outlets of spas must have plumbing provisions to eliminate any possibility of entrapping suction. The total velocity through grate openings shall not exceed one and one-half (1 1/2) feet per one (1) second.

REGULATION 5. Disinfection

Gaseous chlorine shall not be used for the disinfection of spas.

REGULATION 6. Separation Walls

Where a spa is located contiguous with a swimming pool, the separating wall shall be designed to preclude its use as a walkway unless the minimum required walkway widths can be maintained.

REGULATION 7. Temperature

The temperature of heated water coming into a public or semipublic spa shall not exceed 104°F. (40°C).

REGULATION 8. Timer

The timer for a public or semipublic spa which controls the hydrotherapy jets shall be located at least five (5) feet from the spa and shall have a maximum time limit of 15 minutes.

REGULATION 9. Air Blower and Air Induction Systems

An air blower system or air induction system for a public or semipublic spa shall comply with the following requirements:

- a. The system shall prevent water backflow, which could cause an electrical shock hazard;
- b. Air intake sources shall not introduce water, dirt, or contaminants into the spa;
- c. The system shall be properly sized for a commercial spa application;
- d. If the air blower is installed within an enclosure or indoors, then adequate ventilation shall be provided; and
- e. Integral air passages shall be pressure tested and shall provide structural integrity to a value of one and one-half (1 1/2) times the intended working pressure.

REGULATION 10. Depth Markers

Depth markers for a public or semipublic spa shall comply with all of the following:

- a. A public or semipublic spa shall have permanent depth markers with numbers that are a minimum of four (4) inches high. Depth markers shall be plainly and conspicuously visible from all points of entry.
- b. The maximum depth of a public or semipublic spa shall be clearly indicated by depth markers.
- c. There shall be a minimum of two (2) depth markers at each public or semipublic spa.
- d. Depth markers shall be spaced at no more than 25 foot intervals and shall be uniformly located around the perimeter of the spa.
 - e. Depth markers shall be positioned on the deck within 18 inches of the side of the spa. A depth marker shall be positioned so that a person standing on the deck facing the water can read it.
 - f. Depth markers that are on deck surfaces shall be made of slip-resistant material.
- g. Depth markers shall be in Arabic numerals of contrasting color to the background.