

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES



DIVISION FOR REGULATORY SERVICES ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONSUMER SAFETY SECTION POLICY, STANDARDS, AND QUALITY ASSURANCE UNIT PUBLIC HEALTH SANITATION & CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY

PUBLIC HEALTH SANITATION & CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY REGULATORY GUIDELINES

Date: MARCH 1, 2012

EHPSQAC NO. 003

SUBJECT: Required Signs at Public Pools and Spas

Applicable Texas Administrative Code: 25 TAC §265.199(f), Signs for post-10/01/99 and pre-10/01/99 pools

- 1) Pool signs are required to be securely mounted and visible to the pool user from inside the pool enclosure.
- 2) When no lifeguard is **provided** at a Class C facility a sign with the words “**NO DIVING**” in at least 4-inch letters and with a minimum 4-inch **international symbol for no diving** shall be posted.
- 3) For pools where no lifeguard is **required** the following signs shall be posted:
 - a. “**WARNING-NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY**” minimum 4-inch letters;
 - b. “**CHILDREN SHOULD NOT USE POOL WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION**” minimum 2-inch letters;
- 4) When the required telephone is not visible in the pool yard directions to the phone shall be posted in letters a minimum of 1-inch in height;
- 5) All pool yards shall have a sign posted in the yard with letters at least 1-inch in height stating, “**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, CALL 911**”; and
- 6) Post-10/01/99 pools shall post a maximum user load limit sign based upon the following table:

Shallow/Instructional or Beginning or Wading Areas (less than 5 ft. in depth)	Deep Area (5 Ft. Deep or Greater and not Including Diving Area)	Diving Area
1 Swimmer to 15 sq. ft. surface area in shallow areas	1 Swimmer to 25 sq. ft. surface area in deep areas	1 Swimmer to 300 sq. ft. surface area in diving area

Pool operators may post a lower maximum load limit than calculated, but the load limit may not exceed the ratios in the table above.

Applicable Texas Administrative Code: 25 TAC §265.205(7), Signs for post-10/01/99 and pre-10/01/99 spas

- 1) Spa signs are required to be securely mounted and visible to the pool user from inside the spa enclosure.
- 2) A sign shall be posted with the location of the nearest telephone or emergency summoning device;
- 3) All spas shall have the sign stating **“DO NOT USE THE SPA IF THE WATER TEMPERATURE IS ABOVE 104 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT (40 DEGREES CENTIGRADE)”** in letters at least 1-inch in height.
- 4) All spas shall post a maximum user load limit sign which shall be calculated at 1 person per 10 square feet of spa surface area. **Spa operators may post a lower maximum load limit than calculated, but the load limit may not exceed the 1/10 ratio.**
- 5) For spas where no lifeguard is **required** the following signs shall be posted:
 - a. **“WARNING-NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY”** minimum 4-inch letters;
 - b. **“CHILDREN SHOULD NOT USE SPA WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION”** minimum 2-inch letters; and
 - c. **“WARNING-NO LIFEGUARD ON DUTY”** in letters a minimum of 4-inches in height.

All required signage can be combined and placed on one placard as long as the sign is visible in all areas of the pool or spa yard.

Public pool and spa owner/operators may use signs that include a specific age of a person that can use a public pool or spa without adult supervision.

Additional signs with other rules not specifically found in the Standards for Public Swimming Pools and Spas, 25 TAC §265.181 – 208, may be posted at a public pool or spa.