

# NATIONAL POOL SAFETY STANDARDS

**Fulfilling the legal requirements for public swimming pools can be a daunting task for the owners and operators of any aquatic facility.**

In Canada most provinces and territories have guidelines on public pool operation – but there is no national standard. Regulations and guidelines vary in the aquatic safety issues they address and are sometimes silent on topics the Lifesaving Society feels are important for maintaining safe environments.

This is why the Lifesaving Society's National Safety Management Commission created the National Public Pool Safety Standards for Canadian Public Swimming Pools, which provides guidance to public pool owners and operators implementing provincial/territorial legislation.

Lifesaving Society standards are based on extensive international research of existing standards, guidelines and best practices. Lifesaving Society standards represent the reasonable minimum – pool operators are encouraged to go beyond them.

New national standards exist for these topics: Lifeguard Age / Lifeguard Certification / Bather-to-Lifeguard Ratios / Emergency and Operating Procedures / Entrapment and Suction Hazards / Safety Equipment / Emergency Telephone / Water Clarity / Diving Depths / Records / Lighting Levels / Swimming Pool Basin Colour / Lifeguard Chair Specifications / Breath-Holding

Other important information on swimming pool basin colour, lifeguard chair specifications and breath-holding are also included. All pool owners and operators are strongly encouraged to download the National Public Pool Safety Standards for Canadian Public Swimming Pools at [www.lifesaving.ca](http://www.lifesaving.ca) in the Aquatic Safety Management section.

For more information on implementing these standards at your facility contact Michael Shane by email: [michaels@lifeguarding.com](mailto:michaels@lifeguarding.com), or call 416-490-8844.



LIFESAVING SOCIETY

*The Lifeguarding Experts*