FIELD EXERCISE:  SWIMMING POOL INSPECTION

Assignment

To ensure that the exercise will be as useful as possible, the supervisor and mentor must review these instructions, the Basic Environmental Health Program (BEHP) Field Exercise Guidelines and the exercise’s Field Assignment Report form prior to selecting the swimming pool to be inspected. The student’s supervisor must arrange for the student to accompany a qualified mentor on an inspection of a swimming pool that requires level II (Lifeguard) supervision in accordance with Section 6-1.23 of Part 6-1. The intent of the exercise is to introduce the student to the concepts and procedures to conduct a swimming pool inspection. Students are not expected to be able to independently conduct swimming pool inspections without substantial additional training and mentoring.

The student should assist or shadow the mentor in all aspects of the inspection including:

- a file review prior to the inspection
- review of appropriate Environmental Health Manual (EHM) items
- completion of the Swimming Pool Inspection report (DOH-1321)
- follow-up activity in response to violations or problems found during the inspection

Upon completion of the Field Assignment Report form, the student, mentor, and student’s supervisor must sign the affirmation at the bottom of the report. Prior to participation in BEHP module EH 107: Bureau of Community Environmental Health & Food Protection Programs, the completed Field Assignment Report must be submitted to:

University at Albany
School of Public Health
One University Place
GEC 202: Attn. Rachel Breidster
Rensselaer, New York 12144

Learning Objectives:

After completing this assignment, the student will be able to:

- Describe the factors that determine the number of lifeguards needed to adequately supervise a pool.
- Describe the factors affecting lifeguard surveillance of a pool.
- Describe appropriate locations and the methods for collecting and testing pool water for chlorine/bromine and pH.
- Describe features in and around a pool that are potential safety hazards.
- Describe factors that can impact pool water recirculation and surface skimming.

Questions on this exercise may be referred to:

Rachel Breidster, BEHP Project Coordinator [518-402-0330] or rbreidster@albany.edu
ASSIGNMENT
The student accompanies the mentor on a field inspection of a swimming pool that requires level II (a),
lifeguard supervision and assists with and observes completion of a swimming pool inspection report form
(DOH 1321) and completes the following questions.

1. Draw a diagram of the pool and identify with an “x”, all appropriate locations in the pool for collection
of water samples for chlorine/bromine and pH testing. Explain the factors that may potentially impact
the test results.

Test for free and combined chlorine or bromine (as applicable) and pH and indicate the amounts found:

free cl / br _______ total cl/br _______ pH ____________.

2. Circle the type of circulation system the pool is equipped with: (skimmer or a gutter system).
Describe any problems observed with the pool’s circulation system:

If skimmers are present, are skimming weirs in place? ___Y ____N

Is adequate suction present in each skimmer? _____Y _____N

If a gutter (perimeter overflow system) is present, is there flow over the entire perimeter of the gutter
with no flooding of the gutter? ______Y ______N
3. Locate the flow meter on the recirculation system piping.
   What is the flow rate? ___________ gpm.

   What is the flow rate from the approved pool plans ___________ gpm?

4. Determine the number of lifeguards required to properly supervise the pool. Refer to Chapter 1 of the State Sanitary Code, Subpart 6-1 (Swimming Pools), Section 6-1.23.

   What is the surface area of the pool? __________.
   How many lifeguards are required? _____.
   How many are provided? _____.

   Indicate with a (L) on the diagram prepared for question 1, the location of all lifeguards.

   Identify and list features/conditions at this pool that can affect the lifeguard’s ability to provide proper surveillance and scanning.

5. Are electrical receptacles present in the pool area? ____Y____N
   If yes: Distance from the edge of the pool: _____feet.

   Are the receptacles protected by ground fault circuit interrupters? ____Y_____ N
   Are portable, electric devices, such as radios, in use? Y____N____.
   If yes, what is the distance from the edge of the pool? ____feet.

6. Is the main drain grate secured in place and unbroken? ____Y____N
   Discuss, identify and list factors related to the significance of a broken or missing main drain grate.

7. Describe any inadequacies with markings for the pool’s water depth, underwater steps, bottom slope, breakpoint or similar features. Refer to 6-1.10(d)

The following signatures certify that this student completed EH 107 FE-2 in accordance with the Basic Environmental Health Program guidelines.

_________________________          ____________________              ____________________
Student   Supervisor                    Mentor