

# Ordinance No. 1201

**AN ORDINANCE** to amend the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1953, as amended, by adding thereto a new chapter entitled **Chapter 15-C**, which Chapter 15-C provides regulations for the design, construction, alteration, maintenance and operation of public swimming pools and provides for administration and enforcement of this Chapter and penalties for violations.

The primary purpose of this ordinance is to assure that all bathing places in the City of Alexandria are furnished with a water supply that is clean, clear, free from dirt or other foreign substances and properly treated to minimize the hazards of disease to the users of such facilities; to provide uniform standards for the construction of new bathing places and to provide rules and regulations for the safe operation of bathing places.

**THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:**

Section 1. That the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1953, as amended, be and the same hereby is amended by adding a new chapter thereto numbered Chapter 15-C to read as follows:

## **CHAPTER 15-C SWIMMING POOLS**

### **Article I Title and Definitions**

#### **Section 15 C-1. SHORT TITLE**

This chapter shall be known as and may be cited as the "Swimming Pool Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia."

#### **Section 15 C-2. DEFINITIONS**

For the purposes of this chapter, the following words and phrases shall have the meaning ascribed to them in this section unless otherwise expressly stated or unless the context clearly indicates a different intention.

- a. "Swimming Pool" or "Pool"—Any artificial, permanent basin or tank, including all appurtenant equipment, structures and facilities for the purpose of impounding water to a depth of more than three feet, for the immersion or partial immersion therein of human beings.
- b. "Public Pool" means any swimming pool (other than a swimming pool used or intended to be used solely by the owner or lessee thereof and his family, and by friends invited to use it without payment of any fee) including among others, swimming pools at private clubs, commercial pools, hotel and motel pools, and all pools where an admission fee is charged or where any activity for profit is carried on.
- c. "Wading Pool" means any artificial, permanent basin or tank, including all appurtenant equipment, structures and facilities, for the purpose of impounding water to a depth not greater than three feet for the immersion or partial immersion therein of human beings.
- d. "Spray Pool"—An artificial, hard surfaced drainage area designed to remove water, at a rate sufficient to prevent impounding from

shower or spray nozzles used in conjunction therewith for spraying of human beings.

- e. "Bathing Place" means any swimming pool, wading pool or spray pool.
- f. "Health Officer"—The term shall mean the Director of Public Health of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, or his authorized representative.
- g. "Person"—The term "person" shall mean individual, firm, corporation or association.
- h. "Operator or Manager"—The term "operator or manager" shall mean the individual or individuals responsible for operation and management of the bathing place.
- i. "Maximum Load"—"Maximum Load" shall mean the number of bathers in the water to be determined by dividing the total of square footage of the swimming pool water space area by 27. (This area is exclusive of the designated diving area.)

#### Article II Design and Construction

##### Section 15 C-3. APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

A building permit shall be obtained from the Building Inspector, City of Alexandria, after Site Plan approval by the City Planning Commission, before the construction, remodeling, or major alteration of any bathing place. Plans and specifications shall have been approved by the Health Officer prior to the issuance of such permit. Plans and specifications must be submitted in triplicate to the office of Construction and Inspection, and one set, bearing approval by the Health Officer, will be returned to the applicant. One set will be kept in the office of the Director of Construction and Inspection.

##### Section 15 C-4. SWIMMING POOL—DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

All public swimming pools shall be constructed in accordance with the following requirements:

###### (1) Pool and Pool Area

- a. **Water Supply:** All water used in swimming pools shall be from an approved source. No piping arrangements shall exist which, under any conditions, will permit sewage or waste water to enter the swimming pool water system or water from the swimming pool to enter the make-up water supply.
- b. **Location:** The location of a pool shall in no way hinder the operations for which it is designed nor adversely affect bathers' safety or water quality. It shall be located in an area not subject to flooding, and underdrains shall be provided where required and shall comply with City Plumbing Code and shall go to waste.
- c. **Material:** Any materials which will provide a tight durable tank with light color, smooth and easily cleaned surfaces may be used for swimming pool construction.
- d. **Shape and Slopes:** The pool shall be designed and constructed in such a shape or contour that efficient and safe control of

the bathers can be accomplished. In water depths under five feet, the slope of the bottom from the shallow end wall to the five foot depth shall be a continuous straight slope and shall not exceed one foot in twelve feet horizontal distance.

- e. **Pool Decks:** There shall be a deck at least four feet wide and shall extend around the entire perimeter of the pool. The deck shall be constructed of concrete or other impervious material. The material shall have a non-slip but smooth finish. The deck shall have a pitch of not less than one-quarter of an inch to the foot and be so designed as to conduct drainage away from the pool area in a manner that will not create or maintain pools of water or a nuisance. In addition, all fill under decks shall be properly tamped and proper supports shall be provided to prevent decks from settling. A type of pool designed with outlets near or over the top may, within a maximum of nine feet from the pool edge, have the deck slope to a continuous drain or multiple drains. The overflow or deck drainage from this type of area may be filtered and returned to the pool. Such an arrangement would still necessitate an outside area sloping away from the pool as required above.
- f. **Fences:** All outdoor swimming pool areas shall be enclosed by a substantial fence or other effective barrier not less than four feet in height above the ground, provided that the height of such fence around a pool on the premises of a motel or motor court, used exclusively by owners, employees and guests of said establishment, shall not be less than three feet. A woven steel wire or chainlink type fence, or a fence of equal or greater strength shall be construed as acceptable. The fence shall have a safety lock designed to prevent opening by a small child. This lock shall be located not less than three feet from the ground surface in the case of the four foot fence and not less than two feet in the case of the three foot fence. A rescue or maintenance vehicle shall be capable of being admitted to within fifty feet of the swimming pool proper.
- g. **Steps and Ladders:** All pools shall be equipped with a means of ingress and egress. Pools having a perimeter greater than one hundred feet shall have two means of ingress and egress. All steps, ladders and other similar devices shall be of a non-slip, non-corrosive material. Handrails shall be provided.
- h. **Overflow Facilities:** Provision shall be made for removal of floating material and scum from the surface of the water.

If a recessed type of gutter located near the top of the walls is to be used, the gutter shall have a minimum depth of six inches and shall be of a design which will permit satisfactory cleaning of the overflow channel. The lip of the scum gutter shall be level and be designed to serve as a hand-hold for bathers. The gutter drain outlets shall be spaced around the pool not more than ten feet on centers and shall not exceed three feet in either direction from any corner or irregularity in the gutter. The gutter bottom shall slope towards these outlets with a minimum slope of one-eighth inch to the foot. The drains shall not be less than two and one-half inches in

diameter and the total orifice area of the grating shall be at least four times the cross-sectional area of the outlet pipe.

The above described gutter may be replaced by an arrangement of overflow pipes or devices, preferably suction activated floating-weir type skimming tanks, in the walls which will provide the proper removal of scum and floating material. Floating weir type suction skimmers shall be recessed into the pool walls and designed for removal of surface scum and floating materials. The rate-of-flow over the skimmer weir shall be between 1.5 and 4.0 gallons per minute per inch of weir length and not less than four skimmers shall be provided at each swimming pool. A minimum of one skimmer shall be provided for each side of the pool. In addition, skimming devices shall meet the following general specifications:

1. Skimmer throats shall not be greater than width required for weirs 10 inches long.
2. Skimmer weirs shall be automatically adjustable to variations in water level over a minimum range of 3 inches.
3. A removable basket or screen to trap large solids shall be provided in each skimmer.
4. The outlet pipe from each skimmer shall contain a device for regulating the flow of water from the skimmer through the entire range from the design rate-of-flow to shut-off.

Any proposed alternative plan must demonstrate an equivalent efficiency.

If the recirculation system is designed for water to enter the bottom portion of the pool and overflow the top or near the top of the pool, then adequate drainage of the scum and floating material from the deck must be provided. This may be a continuous drain or multiple drains. (See Item "e," **Pool Decks**, above). In multiple drains, each drain grating shall have a total orifice area of at least four times cross-sectional area of drain pipe, which shall have a minimum diameter of 4.9 inches. In the use of drain channels, continuous around the perimeter of the pool, the channel grating shall be designed so as not to create a hazard to the fingers and toes and be resistant to corrosion.

- i. **Inlets and Outlets:** The inlets for recirculation shall be submerged and be located to produce uniform circulation of water throughout the swimming pool without the existence of dead spots. Wall inlets shall be located on not more than twenty foot centers entirely around the perimeter of the swimming pool. Bottom inlets shall be spaced, depending on the pool dimensions, so as to produce uniform water circulation. Each inlet is to be designed as an adjustable orifice or provided with a valve.
- j. **Depth Markings:** The depth of the water in the swimming pool shall be marked at every foot increment of depth in water depth 5 feet and under on both the horizontal and vertical surfaces of the wall, except in water deeper than five feet,

the markings shall be placed at each additional 3 feet of water depth. Numerals and letters shall be at least five inches in size and of good color contrast with the walls and deck. The words "Deep Water" shall be marked on the deck at the five foot depth.

- k. **Diving Boards:** At least twelve feet of free and unobstructed headroom shall be provided above the diving boards. The minimum depth of water under diving boards shall be determined as follows:

ELEVATION OF DIVING POINT ABOVE WATER SURFACE	DEPTH OF WATER	DIMENSIONS HORIZONTAL	
		FROM END WALL TO MAXI- MUM DEPTH	FROM MAXIMUM DEPTH TO 5 FOOT MARK
0 to 24 in. inclusive.....	8 ft.	12 ft.	12 ft.
24 in to 30 in. inclusive .....	8 ft.	13 ft.	17 ft.
30 in. plus to 1 meter incl. ....	8 ft. 6 in.	15 ft.	20 ft.
1 meter plus to 3 meters incl. ....	10 ft.	15 ft.	20 ft.
3 meters plus to 5 meters .....	14 ft. 6 in.	17 ft.	28 ft. 6 in.

The slope of the pool bottom from the break in the deep part of the diving hopper to the five-foot depth shall be a continuous straight slope and shall not exceed one-foot rise in three feet horizontal distance. The minimum distance from the end wall to the five-foot depth shall be the total of the end wall to maximum depth dimension plus the maximum depth to five-foot depth dimension as shown in the table.

Where multiple diving boards are used, the space between center lines shall be not less than eleven feet, except boards twenty-four inches and under, and no board twenty-four inches above the water shall be closer than ten feet to a side wall and the space between center lines shall be not less than ten feet. These dimensions shall apply both at the end wall and the point of maximum depth.

The space between center lines of three meter and five meter diving boards shall be not less than fifteen feet and between five meter and ten meter boards shall be not less than eighteen feet. The minimum distances from center lines of five meter and ten meter boards shall be the same to side walls.

1. **Lighting:** Where pools are to be used after dark the swimming pool area shall be equipped with lighting fixtures of such number and design as to light all parts of the pool, the water therein, and the deck. Fixtures should be installed in such a manner as not to be a hazard to bathers, and shall be designed to prevent light-attracted insects from falling into the water. The design and installation of light fixtures shall be such that lifeguards can see every part of the swimming pool including decks, spring boards, and other appurtenances without being blinded by the glare. Underwater lighting shall be

selected so as to provide 1 watt per square foot of water surface where depth is greater than 5 feet and ½ watt per square foot of surface water where depth is between 2 and 5 feet.

**(2) Electrical Safety Requirements**

- a. The entire electrical installation provided for public bathing places, their dressing and locker rooms, and other indoor and outdoor appurtenances shall comply with and be maintained in accordance with requirements of the National Electrical Code, Article 680.
- b. All electrical wiring accessible to bathers (if run exposed) shall be in rigid conduit or electrical metallic tubing, and all boxes, fittings, and accessories used in damp or wet locations shall be so installed and equipped as to prevent the entrance of water. (See Article 346, Section 346-6; and Article 348, Section 348-4, National Electrical Code).
- c. Distribution centers, where fused switches or circuit breakers are grouped, shall be enclosed, and located so as to be inaccessible to other than authorized persons.
- d. In addition to the grounding requirements for electrical equipment, and circuits as required by the National Electrical Code, all water and other piping to and from the public bathing place, including inlet and outlet pipes, shall be metallically bonded together and adequately connected to the same grounding electrode used to ground the neutral conductor of the electrical system. (See Article 250, Section 250-54, National Electrical Code).
- e. Pumps, filters, and other mechanical and electrical equipment shall be enclosed in such manner as to be accessible only to authorized persons and not to bathers. Construction and drainage shall be such as to avoid the entrance and accumulation of water in the vicinity of the electrical equipment.
- f. All electrical devices such as portable announcing systems, plug-in radios, soft drink dispensers, etc., that might be improperly used around the pool deck and immediate environment shall be prohibited in pool decks within reach of people on the decks.
- g. **Additional Electrical Safety Requirements for Outdoor Public Places**—The crossing of outdoor public bathing places, and playgrounds contiguous to outdoor public bathing places, by overhead electrical conductors is prohibited.
- h. **Electrical Safety Inspection**—The electrical installation of every public bathing place in the City of Alexandria, Virginia, shall be inspected and approved by the Electrical and Plumbing Inspection Department of the City of Alexandria, for compliance with the foregoing requirements and any violations reported shall be corrected immediately. Such inspections shall be made annually in outdoor bathing places prior to the opening of each season, and indoor pools shall be inspected as soon after the first of the year as possible.

Any new or modified electrical installation of a public bathing place shall be inspected and, if necessary, corrected before it is placed in service as provided in the preceding paragraph.

A record of each inspection and the recommendations made by the inspection agency shall be kept on file by the management for a period of at least two years.

**(3) Pool Recirculation System and Appurtenances**

- a. **Recirculation System:** All swimming pools shall be equipped with a recirculation system which shall include pumps, hair and lint catcher, filters, disinfection equipment and proper pipe connections to the inlets and outlets. Provision shall be made for backwashing filters. The recirculation system shall be designed for at least a six hour turn-over of the swimming pool water. All underground piping in the recirculation system shall be of galvanized wrought iron, type K copper or cement lined iron.
- b. **Filter Room:** Any room containing the filtration equipment, pumps, and other recirculation system appurtenances shall be finished in a light color and be well illuminated. Cross ventilation of air space shall be provided. The floor of the filter room shall provide adequate drainage. Any plan for discharging filter backwashing water onto the filter room floor is strictly prohibited. All of the recirculation equipment in the filter room shall be installed so that it is convenient to operate or repair. All entrances below ground surface shall be reached by a stairway. Adequate headroom shall be provided above all pressure filters. Persons other than the owner or his agents shall not be permitted in the room.
- c. **Pumps:** The pumping equipment shall have sufficient capacity to discharge the volume of water for the required turnover of the pool against the maximum head in the recirculation system. The pump used for backwashing sand filters shall have sufficient capacity to backwash the unit at the rate of at least 12 gallons per minute per square foot of the filter area and pump capacity shall be maintained.
- d. **Hair and Lint Catcher:** Hair and lint catchers are required. They shall be installed ahead of the filter pump and be designed and located so that they can be dismantled for cleaning and inspection.
- e. **Filters:** The recirculation system shall be equipped with a filtration system that will filter the entire contents of the swimming pool in six hours or less at the rate of three gallons or less per square foot per minute. In sand filters, the layer of filter sand shall be at least 20 inches in depth, properly supported by uniform layers of clean graded gravel to a minimum depth of twelve inches, or by porous plates. Except when porous plates are used, an underdrain system shall be provided for the uniform collection of filtered water, and the uniform distribution of backwash water. The filter sand shall

have an effective size between 0.45 and 0.55 millimeters, with a uniformity coefficient not greater than 1.8. Pressure filters shall be equipped with readily accessible air relief valves and all filters shall have an access hole large enough to permit inspection, maintenance and repair work. Each pressure filter shall be equipped with a pressure gauge on the inlet and outlet to indicate the loss of head in pounds per square inch. A sampling cock on the filter effluent and a sight glass that can be easily removed for cleaning shall be provided on the waste discharge line. Gravity type filters shall be equipped with loss of head gauges. In filter aid type filters the filter media shall be diatomaceous silica, porphyritic substances or especially prepared cellulose materials that can be uniformly deposited as precoat on supporting membranes or filter elements. With the precoat applied at not less than 0.1 lb./sq. ft. of filter area, filter effluent turbidity shall not exceed 0.2 turbidity units. The variable rate filter systems shall be designed so that the rate of filtration shall not be less than 2 gpm/sq. ft. at the maximum operating pressure differential or greater than 5 gpm/sq. ft. at the minimum operating pressure differential. Piping shall be provided for recirculation of precoat, sampling cocks for sampling of each filter effluent. Backwash of filter shall be effective, dislodging spent filter media from the elements and flushing from the shell so that the material cannot be reapplied in subsequent precoat operation.

- f. **Rate of Flow Indicators:** The recirculation system shall be equipped with a rate of flow indicator reading in gallons per minute, located so as to indicate the rate of flow of filtered water returned to the pool. The rate of flow indicator shall also be capable of indicating the rate of backwash in gallons per minute in sand or anthracite coal filters.
- g. **Suction Cleaner:** A suction or jet type cleaner shall be provided. Where the suction cleaner is operated by the recirculating pump, a device shall be provided for throttling the flow from the pool outlet and the suction cleaner line shall be connected through the hair and lint catcher. Where jet type cleaners are used, they shall not be connected to a hose bib connected to a potable water supply unless proper anti-syphon devices, approved by the Plumbing Inspector, have been installed.
- h. **Chemical Feeding Equipment:** Means shall be provided regulating the feeding of chemicals to the water in the recirculation system.
- i. **Disinfection Equipment:** All swimming pools shall be provided with approved chlorine feeding equipment or other approved disinfectant. The disinfection equipment shall be capable of applying a dose up to 10 ppm of chlorine at the rate of recirculation. Chlorine gas feeding equipment and chlorine gas cylinders shall be installed in an enclosed space or room separate from the filter room equipment, with an outside door capable of being locked. This chlorinator room shall be equipped with a forced draft fan exhausting to the outside from the

floor level and have a wall vent located near the floor. The exhaust fan shall be capable of providing 60 air changes per hour against the resistance offered by duct work or any other local factors. A fresh air inlet shall be provided near the ceiling. The chlorine gas tanks shall be protected from direct sunlight and fastened in place during storage and use. A cannister type gas mask for chlorine or a gas mask with a supply of oxygen under positive pressure or compressed air, either of which have been approved by the Bureau of Mines of the United States Government, shall be provided where chlorine gas is being utilized. The cannister for chlorine gas mask shall be replaced after each use or removal of seal and if not used or unsealed, before manufacture's expiration date. It shall be located immediately outside the chlorinator room.

- j. **Chemical Testing Equipment:** Each swimming pool shall be provided with equipment for the determination of hydrogen-ion concentration ranging from 6.8 to 8.0. Equipment shall also be provided for determination of residual chlorine content ranging from 0.1 to 1.0 ppm.

#### Article III Special Requirements for Public Pools

##### Section 15 C-5. PUBLIC POOL FACILITIES

All public pools shall be equipped with the following:

###### (1) Dressing Room Facilities

- a. **Dressing Rooms:** Separate dressing rooms must be provided for both sexes. Metal lockers, wire baskets, hooks or other sanitary means of storage of clothing and personal accessories shall be provided. All storage containers for clothing shall be kept clean and sanitary. All sewage shall be discharged to an approved sewerage system or to an individual sewage disposal system meeting the requirements of the Alexandria Plumbing Code. Floors shall have a minimum pitch of 3 inches in 10 feet to the drains with no low spots which will allow water to stand. The floors shall be of smooth but non-slip finish and the rooms shall be ventilated so that the floors do not remain damp or wet.
- b. **Showers:** Showers shall be provided in the proportion of one for each forty persons at the time of maximum load. Each shower shall supply an adequate quantity of heated water through a device that will prevent water from one shower draining across the floor area of another.
- c. **Toilets:** Toilet facilities shall be provided in proportion of one water closet for each forty females, or one water closet and one urinal for each sixty females at the time of maximum load. One water closet and one urinal shall be provided for each sixty males at the time of maximum load. The urinals and water closets shall be so located that the bathers will pass by them on their way to the swimming pool. Computations shall be based on the premise that at the time of maximum load one-half of the bathers will be male and one-half female.
- d. **Lavatories:** Lavatories shall be provided in the proportion of one for each sixty persons expected at the time of max-

imum load. Each lavatory shall be provided with suitable facilities for making soap available.

- e. **Motel Dressing Room Facilities:** Motels and other like establishments which provide toilet facilities in each guest unit and which restrict the use of the bathing place to occupant guests shall be deemed to comply with this section "a" through "d" only, except in cases where the Health Officer deems it impractical or inconvenient for the employees and patrons to use existing facilities of such motel or other establishment.
- f. **Drinking Fountains:** The swimming pool area shall be equipped with at least one approved type drinking fountain that is readily accessible to the bathers.
- g. **Personal Regulations:**
  1. All persons using a swimming pool must be required to take a cleansing shower bath in the nude, using warm water and soap, and thoroughly rinsing off all soap suds, before entering the pool or enclosure. A bath after donning a bathing suit should not be permitted.
  2. A bather leaving the pool to use the toilet should be required to take a second cleansing bath before returning.
  3. Every bather should be instructed to use the toilet particularly to empty the bladder before taking a cleansing bath and entering the pool.
  4. Any person having any skin disease, sore or inflamed eyes, cold, nasal or ear discharges, or any communicable disease must be excluded from a public swimming pool.
  5. Persons having any considerable area of exposed subepidermal tissue, open blisters, cuts, etc., should be warned that these are likely to become infected and advised not to use the pool.
  6. Spitting, spouting of water, blowing the nose, etc., in the pool should be strictly prohibited. Bathers should be instructed that the overflow gutter is provided for expectoration.
  7. All bathers should be instructed that blowing the nose to remove water is likely to force infectious matter into the sinus and inner ear cavities and possibly cause serious consequences.
  8. No boisterous or rough play, except supervised water sports, should be permitted in the pool, on the runways, diving boards, floats, platforms or in dressing rooms, shower rooms, etc.
  9. Suitable placards embodying the above personal regulations and instructions and those relating to suits and towels should be conspicuously posted in the pool room or enclosure and in the dressing rooms and offices at all swimming pools.

- h. Food and Drink Facilities:** Food and drink preparation, serving or consumption facilities shall not be permitted on the deck or closer than 20 feet to the rim of the pool. Food and drink preparation and consumption shall not be within the pool area unless additional fencing at least 3 feet in height separates the area from the main pool area. No bottled drinks or glass containers shall be permitted in the pool area.
- i. Permit:** Virginia State Tourist Establishment Permit issued by the Alexandria Health Department shall be required for any food or beverage facilities.

**Article IV Permits for and Operation of Public Pools****Section 15 C-6. PERMIT FOR OPERATION OF PUBLIC POOLS REQUIRED**

A person or firm acting for management of any pool shall be considered as operator of such pool and come under all of the requirements herein stated for the operation of said pool. It shall be unlawful for any person to establish, construct, operate or maintain, use or offer for use, any public pool located within the limits of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, unless he holds a valid permit issued by the Health Officer. The requirement that such permit shall be obtained is in addition to any other permits or licenses required by the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, the City Council or any department, board, agency or commission of the City of Alexandria, Virginia.

**Section 15 C-7.—ISSUANCE OF OPERATOR'S PERMITS FOR PUBLIC POOLS**

Operator's Permits shall be issued only to individuals. No person shall operate a public pool unless it is under the immediate control of an operator holding an operator's permit issued by the Health Officer. An applicant for operator's permit shall have basic knowledge of the water treatment processes in bathing places; shall know proper technique for collection of water samples for bacteriological analysis; and be capable of performing the chemical tests necessary in control of bathing places. The prerequisite for an operator's permit shall be a certificate from the Metropolitan Area Swimming Pool Operators and Managers Short Course School or its equivalent. Such permit shall be valid for a period of one year from date of issuance unless sooner revoked or suspended. No permit may be transferable and any person holding a permit shall give notice in writing to the Health Officer within twenty-four hours after having sold, transferred, given away, or otherwise disposed of interest in or control of any bathing place. Such notice shall include the name and address of the person or persons succeeding to the ownership or control of such bathing place.

**Section 15 C-8. OPERATION OF PUBLIC POOLS**

A licensed person (holder of an operator's permit) shall be on duty when pool is open. All public pools shall be operated subject to the following rules and regulations:

(1) **Dressing Rooms**

- a. **Soap:** Soap shall be provided at each shower or lavatory.
- b. **Common Use of Articles:** Common use of brushes, combs, towels and drinking cups shall be prohibited.
- c. **Suits and Towels:** Suits and towels furnished to bathers shall be laundered and handled in healthful and safe manner.
- d. **Dressing Room Floors:** The floor of the dressing room shall be maintained in a clean and dry condition, when the swimming pool is not in use, to aid in the prevention of "athlete's foot" disease.
- e. **General Housekeeping:** All of the dressing room facilities shall be maintained in a healthful and safe manner.
- f. **Safety Equipment:** An approved first aid kit shall be kept available on the premises at all times, and all other safety equipment as may be required by the Director of Public Health.

(2) **Pool Area**

- a. **Operating Records:** A daily record of the operation of the swimming pool shall be maintained by the operator. The record shall include date, alkalinity and free available chlorine at least every three hours during pool operation, weather conditions, chemicals added and amounts, filter pressures (inlet and outlet gauges), rate of flow in gallons per minute and report of all accidents in detail. A copy of the daily record shall be submitted weekly to the Health Department on forms supplied by the Health Department.
- b. **Disinfection:** The chlorination equipment shall be operated so as to maintain a free available chlorine content of not less than 1.0 ppm at all points throughout the swimming pool water when there are bathers present. All free available chlorine determinations shall be made by using the sodium arsenite or flash test, or any other method approved by the Director. Chemicals other than chlorine, sodium or calcium hypochlorite, lime, soda ash and aluminum sulfate shall not be used to treat swimming pool water without permission from the Health Officer.
- c. **Alkalinity:** The hydrogen-ion concentration should be maintained on the alkaline side at a point between a pH of 7.2 to 8.0.
- d. **Filtration:** The filters should be operated 24 hours a day during the season of use of the swimming pool. At all times when the pool is open for use, the water shall be sufficiently clear to permit a disc 6 inches in diameter, divided into alternate black and white quadrants, when placed on the bottom of the pool at the deepest point, to be clearly visible from the swimming pool deck at all distances up to 10 yards in a horizontal direction from projection of the disc on the swimming pool surface. A suction cleaner shall be used at such times as are necessary to maintain the floor of the swimming pool free from all visible sediment.

- e. **Spectators and Visitors:** No person in street clothes shall be allowed on the deck of the swimming pool within 5 feet of the water, except the operating personnel, Health Officer or personnel engaged in repair work. Exceptions may be made for swimming meets or other similar events but in any case spectators in street clothes at these meets will not be permitted on any part of the deck area draining into the swimming pool.
- f. **Filter Room Placards:** A placard shall be prominently displayed in the filter room showing the following data: size of the swimming pool in feet and volume in gallons, capacity of the filters in square feet and gallons per minute, capacity of the pumps in gallons per minute at the appropriate head in feet, head loss at which the filters should be backwashed, rate of flow and turnover rate, and any other data the operator or Health Officer considers pertinent to the operation of the swimming pool.
- g. **Food and Drink Area:** Any person in the process of eating or drinking shall be confined to the area designated for preparation and serving of food and drink, and shall not be allowed on the deck or in the swimming pool.
- h. **Life Guards:** There shall be at least one life guard on duty at all times when the pool is open for use. Life guards on duty shall be construed to be those qualified persons whose sole duty is observation and protection of bathers. Whenever water is more than five feet deep, life guards shall be furnished elevated chairs. Any individual retained as a life guard shall possess the qualifications for meeting the standards of currently trained senior lifesavers recommended by the American Red Cross, YMCA or other accredited agency for life saving personnel.
- i. **The Ratio of Life Guards to Bathers:** The ratio of life guards to bathers shall be one life guard on duty for the first 75 bathers and an additional life guard for every additional 75 bathers in the pool or fraction thereof.

#### **Article V Wading Pools and Spray Pools**

##### **Section 15 C-9 WADING POOL AND SPRAY POOL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION**

Wading pools and spray pools shall be furnished water from an approved water source; they shall be safely located, well lit, constructed of a material which will provide a tight, easily cleanable tank, surrounded by an impervious non-slip material 4 feet in width and separated by a fence from any adjacent swimming pool. If steps or ladders are provided, they shall be of non-slip construction. Spray pools shall be so designed to prevent the pooling of water in the pool bottom.

##### **Section 15 C-10. WATER CIRCULATION SYSTEM FOR WADING POOLS**

The requirements for overflow facilities, inlets, outlets and recirculation systems for wading pools shall be the same as those pro-

vided for swimming pools, provided that no recirculation system is required if there is a continuous introduction of fresh, properly treated water of sufficient volume to replace all the water in the wading pool once in three hours or less.

#### **Article VI Suspension and Penalties**

##### **Section 15 C-11. INSPECTION OF BATHING PLACES**

The Health Officer is hereby directed to make inspections to determine the condition of any bathing place located within the limits of the City of Alexandria, Virginia. The Health Officer shall have the power to enter, at reasonable times, upon any private or public property for the purpose of inspecting and investigating conditions relating to the enforcement of this Chapter or of regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

##### **Section 15 C-12. SUSPENSION**

If the Health Officer finds that probable cause exists for the suspension of a person's permit to operate a Public Swimming Pool, and that the health and safety of those who utilize the pool is menaced, he may enter an order for the immediate suspension of the pool's operation until such time as he finds that such probable cause for suspension no longer exists. No person shall operate any public swimming pool when subject to an order of suspension.

##### **Section 15C-13 REINSTATEMENT**

The Health Officer may reinstate permits if no fact or condition then exists which would warrant his refusal to grant a permit under the terms of this chapter and other applicable local laws.

##### **Section 15 C-14. PENALTY**

Any person who shall fail, refuse or neglect to comply with the provisions of this chapter shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine not exceeding Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00), or confinement in jail for not more than thirty (30) days, either or both, and every failure, refusal, or neglect to fully and completely comply with the provisions of this chapter and each day's continuance thereof beyond the time specified shall constitute a separate offense. Violations of the provisions of the chapter may also be restrained, prohibited or enjoined by appropriate proceedings.

##### **Section 15 C-15 COMPLIANCE WITH CODE**

Nothing contained in this chapter shall excuse anyone holding a valid permit from compliance with any and all other applicable provisions of the Alexandria City Code. The structural and equipment provisions and requirements of this ordinance shall not apply to any bathing place constructed prior to the effective date of this ordinance except as follows:

- (1) When any condition exists in such bathing place that would endanger the health, safety or life of any person, the Health Officer shall have the authority to order such bathing place closed until such condition is corrected.

- (2) When any alteration, placement or replacement of any equipment is made in such bathing place.
- (3) That the provisions and requirements of this ordinance with respect to fences, operational procedures and standards and life guards shall be complied with by all bathing places regardless of date of construction.

**Section 15 C-16 SEPARABILITY**

If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this chapter should be declared invalid for any reason whatsoever, such decision shall not affect the remaining portion of this chapter, which shall remain in full force and effect; and to this end the provisions of this chapter are hereby declared to be severable.

Section 2. That this ordinance shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City not later than five days following its introduction together with a notice containing the time and place for a public hearing. The Clerk of the Council shall note the date of introduction and first reading, the date of publication, the date of the public hearing, and the date of the second reading and final passage in the minutes of the meeting. This ordinance shall become effective **April 8, 1963.**

**FRANK E. MANN**

**Mayor**

**Final Passage: Jan. 22, 1963**