POOL SAFETY EQUIPMENT

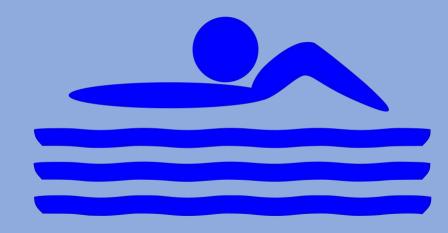
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION DEVICES POOL-SIDE SAFETY EQUIPMENT

WHAT IS REQUIRED? WHAT IS NOT COMPLIANT? WHAT IS BEST PRACTICE?

Nicholas Gale

Environmental Health Inspector/CSP Pool Inspector

Bureau of Environmental Health



- **Emergency Communication**
 - 105 CMR 435.25(2)
 - Examples
 - What is Important??



- Safety Equipment Essentials
 - 105 CMR 435.24
 - Ring Buoy(s)
 - Rescue Hook
 - Backboard w/ Straps



105 CMR 435.25 First Aid Equipment and Emergency Communication

(2) An emergency communication system which at a minimum would allow convenient, immediate, and toll-free communication with emergency medical services, local police, state police, and the local fire department, must be in working order and available at each pool. The telephone numbers of the emergency medical services, local police, state police, and fire department, as well as any instructions necessary to operate the communication system, shall be posted in a conspicuous place near the communication device or station. The location of the emergency communication device must be in an area that is unlocked and available to both the staff and the public at all times.



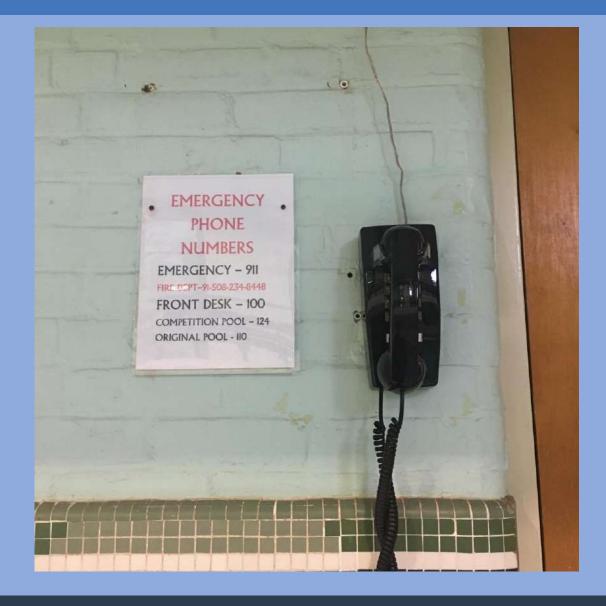
- Convenient, Immediate, Toll-Free Communication
- Emergency Contacts Posted
- Additional Instructions Provided

 Why Should We Always Test the Emergency Communication Device?

























105 CMR 435.24: Safety Equipment

For each 2000 square feet of water surface area or fraction thereof, the operator shall provide, in readily accessible locations, at least one Ring Buoy, U.S. Coast Guard approved, with a ¼ inch polyethylene rope attached, no less in length than 1 ½ times the width of the pool. At those swimming pools that are staffed by lifeguards, there shall also be one Rescue Tube located at each lifeguard station. A backboard with straps shall also be readily available at each swimming pool which is attended by a lifeguard. In addition, all outdoor, in-ground swimming pools shall be equipped with a rescue hook.

M.G.L. c. 140, § 206: Public and Semi-Public Outdoor In-ground Swimming Pools; Enclosures; Safety Equipment; Inspection; Violations; Penalty

"... Any such pool shall be equipped with at least one life ring and a rescue hook."



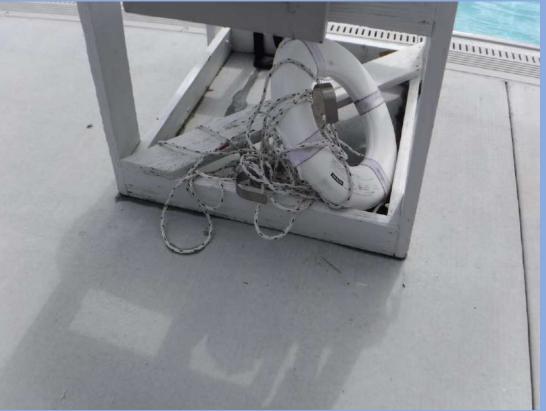
Ring Buoy

- (1) Ring Buoy for each 2000 square feet of water surface area
- U.S. Coast Guard approved
- Attached ¼ inch polyethylene rope
- Rope no less than 1 ½ times the width of the pool
- Rope 'end' is identifiable
- Rope is stored UNTANGLED



















Backboard

- Is the pool attended by lifeguard(s)?
- Are there straps attached? Do the buckles work?
- Is the backboard in good condition?



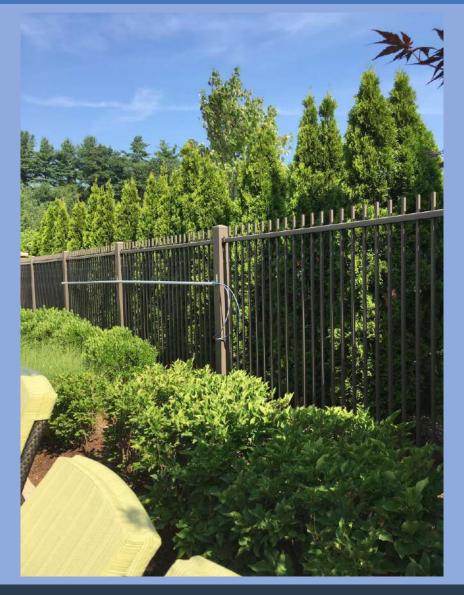




Rescue Hook

- Ensure hook is attached/secured to pole
- No sharp edges on the inside of hook!





Connect with DPH



@MassDPH



Massachusetts Department of Public Health



DPH blog https://blog.mass.gov/publichealth



www.mass.gov/dph



Massachusetts Department of Public Health

Thank You!

Nicholas Gale

Nicholas.gale@state.ma.us