



BOROUGH OF HAWTHORNE

Office of the Borough Administrator

445 Lafayette Avenue, Hawthorne, New Jersey 07506-2551

(TEL) 973-427-1168

(FAX) 973-427-2320

POOL CLOSURES DUE TO FECAL INCIDENTS

We wish to apologize to all pool patrons for the need to close the pool on three separate occasions over the past nine days (Wednesday 6/28, Sunday 7/2, and Thursday 7/6) due to fecal incidents.

When such incidents occur, closure of the pool is required under the New Jersey State Bathing Code until the pool has been shocked with a high level of chlorine, after which the pH must be stabilized at an acceptable level, following CDC guidelines. For the health and safety of bathers this is an absolute regulatory requirement, not some arbitrary choice made locally by pool management.

What is particular distressing is that at least the latest incident (and perhaps the others as well) clearly happened with the knowledge and perhaps even the intent of the perpetrator. None of these cases involved small children who may not yet be potty-trained, as all happened in the deep end of the pool.

Because of the possibility that the same person may be involved, we will be reviewing sign-in sheets and video recordings from those days and going forward, with the goal of identifying the person or persons. The staff will also be giving even more attention to spotting an occurrence and the person responsible.

Anyone found to be engaging in this behavior will be banned from using the pool, with the possibility of criminal charges being filed as well.

As we seek to identify the person(s) responsible and to prevent future occurrences, we ask for the vigilance and cooperation of all patrons to report anything suspicious. The sooner an incident is discovered, the greater our chance is of identifying the person responsible. It can also reduce the time period for which the pool must remain closed.

Robert Berger
Pool Manager

Justin Soccol
Asst. Pool Manager

Eric Maurer
Borough Administrator