



Southwest Utah Public Health Water Lab
620 South 400 East # 400
St. George UT 84770
www.swuhealth.org
Phone (435) 986-2580
Fax (435) 986-2595
Lab Number: UT00955

POOL / SPA -- FAILED BACTERIA SAMPLE PROTOCOL

General Information

Pools or spas may fail routine bacteria tests for a variety of reasons including bad weather, excess bather load, improper chemical levels, malfunctioning equipment, etc. Simple maintenance procedures can correct these problems generally. Bacterial contamination **MUST** be corrected immediately regardless of the cause to prevent the spread of disease and to protect the safety of swimmers. Southwest Utah Public Health Department personnel are happy to assist you in this effort. Please contact your inspector if you have any questions or concerns about your pool(s) or spa(s). Requirements and recommendations are listed below to help you maintain your facilities as required.

Requirements

State regulations require a pool or spa operator to:

1. Submit a second (repeat) sample “within one lab receiving day” {Utah Rule R392-302-27.(5)(e).} A “lab receiving day” means the next day when the lab would normally accept samples. You are not expected to submit samples on Fridays, weekends, or holidays. Calendars that show when the Lab accepts samples are available upon request. Whoever collects and submits your routine samples to the lab should collect and submit repeat samples. If Health Department personnel collect your routine samples, they will collect your repeat samples also. Our office will **NOT** charge a sample fee for the first repeat sample during a permit cycle, but we are required to charge for additional repeat samples.
2. “Develop an acceptable plan to correct the problem.” {Utah Rule R392-302-29.(4).} Our inspectors are happy to visit your facilities, review log books, and to make recommendations. Your inspector can be a valuable resource in this effort. Please take advantage of this opportunity if you are experiencing problems with your pool or spa!

Recommendations

General recommendations cannot be made because of the differences in all pools and spas. Health Department employees are happy to make recommendations after visiting your facilities, reviewing your log book(s), and becoming familiar with your procedures. Your inspector can be a valuable resource in this effort. Please take advantage of this opportunity if you are experiencing problems with your pool or spa!