

**CERTIFIED POOL OPERATOR (CPO)  
TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR 2011**

**March 17-18** Beaverton, OR - Two full days  
Contact: Phil Oaks (360) 241-7665, or email:  
propools@comcast.net

**April 5-6** Portland, OR - Two full days  
The cost of the class is \$330. Contact: Lee  
Engvall (503) 858-5352, or email:  
lee.engvall@gmail.com

**May 4-5** Portland, OR - Two full days  
The cost of the class is \$330. Contact: Lee  
Engvall (503) 858-5352, or email:  
lee.engvall@gmail.com

**May 12-13** Vancouver, WA - Two full days  
Contact: Phil Oaks (360) 241-7665, or email:  
propools@comcast.net

**June 14-15** Portland, OR - Two full days  
The cost of the class is \$330. Contact: Lee  
Engvall (503) 858-5352, or email:  
lee.engvall@gmail.com

**Oct. 11-12** Portland, OR - Two full days  
The cost of the class is \$330. Contact: Lee  
Engvall (503) 858-5352, or email:  
lee.engvall@gmail.com



The certificate is valid for five years. Pool facilities with a certified pool operator receive a discount on their annual operating permit of \$100 to \$175. If your facility has a pool or spa open year round the discount is \$175. If you have a seasonal pool the discount is \$100.

**Environmental Public Health  
Office Service Hours**

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday**

**8:00—11:45 AM**

**1:00—4:30 PM**

**Wednesday**

**9:00—11:45 AM**

**1:00—4:30 PM**

For questions regarding Clark County Water Recreation program please call Marty McGinn at (360) 397-8428 ext. 7275

E-mail general queries to:  
[healthdepartment@clark.wa.gov](mailto:healthdepartment@clark.wa.gov)

Pool inspection results online:  
<http://www.clark.wa.gov/public-health/pools/query.html>

Washington State Department of Health Web site: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/ts/WaterRec/>



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**CLARK COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH**  
1601 East Fourth Plain Blvd.  
PO Box 9825  
Vancouver, WA 98666-8825  
Phone: (360) 397-8428



For other formats, contact the Clark County ADA Office  
**Voice** (360) 397-2000, **Relay** 711 or (800) 833-6388,  
**Fax** (360) 397-6165, **E-mail** ADA@clark.wa.gov.

*In*

*The*

*Swim*

**Improving Water  
Conditions for  
Commercial  
Pool Operators**



**CLARK COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH**

## MAINTAIN WATER QUALITY

If you operate a pool or spa your #1 goal should be to maintain water quality. Most important is maintaining the disinfectant at regulated levels—the free chlorine needs to be **2.0 to 10.0 ppm** for a pool and **3.0 to 10.0 ppm** for a spa; **optimal pH (7.2-7.8)**; alkalinity (80-170 ppm).

The only way to do this is to **test the water for free chlorine at least three times a day.**

Test pH once a day. “pH” refers to acid/base level in the water. It is important to keep the pH at 7.2 to 7.8 to allow the chlorine to interact with the bacteria, viruses and algae. It is important to the bather’s safety and comfort, for water purity and appearance.

Effects of LOW pH:

- Faster chlorine loss
- Forms chloramines gas
- Etches plaster
- Causes eye irritation
- Corrosive to equipment and metals

Effects of HIGH pH:

- Poor chlorine efficiency
- Clouds the water
- Causes scale formation
- Shortens filter runs (need to backwash/clean filter more often)

Keep the test results on a log sheet. Log sheets are available at: <http://www.clark.wa.gov/public-health/pool/documents/poollog.pdf>

State of Washington regulations require operators complete these log sheets. The log sheets provide a history of testing results and provides a way to review and determine the cause and effect between usage and test results. It also shows how the adding of chemicals will effect the levels and assist in troubleshooting when needed. They can also be used to mark when the pool or spa filter was backwashed/cleaned or water drained.

**Other helpful information on the web:**

- Pool and Spa Operations guide
- Washington State regulations for swimming pools and spas
- Newsletter
- Health swimming tips
- Guidelines for fencing and main drains
- How to avoid ‘Recreational Water Diseases’
- Swimming safety information in English, Spanish and Russian

## POOL CHEMICAL SAFETY

**Some basic things to remember about chemicals:**

- Never put granular chlorine into the chlorine feeder that is designed for tablets. This can cause an explosion, fire or a release of toxic chemical gas.
- If you are mixing a chemical and water in a bucket, always add the water first. This will keep the chemical from splashing up into your face.

## ATHLETE’S FOOT FUNGUS

Athlete’s foot gets its name because athletes often get it. Why? The fungus that causes it can be found where athletes are often found, i.e. locker rooms, pools, and public showers. The fungus grows on warm, damp surfaced where people walk barefoot, and the fungus ends up on their feet. Just having the fungus on your feet isn’t enough to cause the infection. The infection happens if conditions are right for the fungus to grow. The fungus likes it wet, so keep the deck and locker rooms as dry as possible.

## ATHLETE’S FOOT FUNGUS

**What Are the Signs and Symptoms?**

- Bumps on the feet
- Cracked, blistered, or peeling areas, often between the toes
- Redness and scaling on the soles of the feet
- Skin between the toes may look “cheesy” and have an unpleasant odor
- A rash that spreads to the instep
- Raw skin from scratching



**Athlete’s Foot Prevention**

To help avoid contracting athlete’s foot:

- Disinfect shower floors and pool decking with quaternary ammonia, hydrogen peroxide, rubbing alcohol or vinegar.
- Keep decking and locker rooms as dry as possible.
- Wear sandals around pool areas, public showers and gyms.
- Wash your feet daily and dry thoroughly.

