

**Delaware Health and Social Services
Division of Developmental Disabilities Services
Community Services & Adult Special Populations**

Title: Pools at Neighborhood Homes

Approved By: 
Division Director

Written/Revised By: Policy & Records Committee

Date of Origin: December 1991

Date of Current Review/Revision: May 2004

**** Replaces Pools @ Neighborhood Homes Policy dated March 2000**

I. Purpose

This policy is designed to govern the use of any pool which is part of the property of a Neighborhood Home.

II. Policy

Individuals residing at Neighborhood Homes which have pools shall have access to normalizing experiences related to the use of such a pool. Access and use of the pool shall be in a safe manner.

III. Application

All DDDS Community Services/Adult Special Populations staff and contractual agents

IV. Definitions

- A. Neighborhood Home -a single-unit house providing residential and support services to five or fewer people and licensed pursuant to Title 16, Section 1101 of the Delaware Code.
- B. Neighborhood Home Pool - any indoor or outdoor artificial basin containing a body of water which is used for swimming, wading, diving, recreative bathing or other aquatic purposes. It is not open to the public but is intended strictly for the use of the residence and their family and/or their guests.
- C. Pool Attendant- a person who meets the following training requirements:
 - 1. possesses a current certification in American Red Cross, American Heart Association or NSC Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), or approved equivalent that includes training in adult, child and infant CPR
 - 2. Current certification in American Red Cross First Aid or approved equivalent, that includes training in obstructed airway, artificial breathing, control of bleeding and treatment of shock
 - 3. Current certification in American Red Cross Basic Water Rescue.

V. Standards

- A. A pool attendant shall be present at all times when the Neighborhood Home pool is in use.
- B. The pool attendant shall be aware of individuals' medical issues that may create a need for heightened supervision (example: seizure disorder, cardiac condition).
- C. Individuals with a significant health diagnosis, as determined by his/her physician, shall have medical clearance in order to use the pool. This approval shall be reviewed and updated at least annually.

V. Standards (continued)

- D The following safety equipment shall be located within or immediately adjacent to the pool area:
- 1) a telephone with emergency numbers posted nearby.
 - 2) two blankets.
 - 3) one first aid kit.
 - 4) one rigid backboard (long board) with ties/straps.
 - 5) one lightweight pole at least twelve (12) feet long and equipped with a shepherd's hook.
 - 6) one ring buoy at least fifteen (15) inches in diameter attached to at least thirty (30) feet of rope.
- E At least one Neighborhood Home provider staff for every five (5) individuals receiving services shall be present in the pool area and have completed the Division of Developmental Disabilities Services Training Requirements for Certified Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and First Aid.
- F The residential provider agency responsible for operating the residence with a Neighborhood Home Pool shall be responsible for the operation, maintenance, general sanitation, supervision and safety related to the said pool and its occupants.
- G The residential provider agency responsible for operating the residence with a Neighborhood Home Pool shall develop a set of procedures designed to address the operation, maintenance, general sanitation, supervision and safety related to the pool and its occupants. Such procedures shall be maintained at the home and be available to residential staff, DDDS and DLTCRP staff.
- H This policy shall apply as written to all individuals who receive DDDS service and are guests at the Neighborhood Home pool.

VI. Procedures

<u>Responsibility</u>	<u>Action</u>
Neighborhood Home Provider Agency	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Provides pool attendant with current certification for the pool.2. Obtains medical clearance for individuals with a significant health diagnosis. Such is to be updated at least annually.3. Obtains permission from the individual's guardian of person, as appropriate.4. Maintains a copy of documentation from the physician and guardian of person, in the individual's record. The original documentation shall be sent to HIM.

VII. References

State of Delaware Regulations Governing Public Pools

VIII. Exhibits

None