2016 Model Aquatic Health Code

Code Language

USER GUIDE

CS267224A

2.0 User Guide

The provisions of Chapter 4 *(Aquatic Facility Design Standards and Construction)* apply to construction of a new AQUATIC FACILITY or AQUATIC VENUE or SUBSTANTIAL ALTERATION to an existing AQUATIC FACILITY or AQUATIC VENUE, unless otherwise noted.

The provisions of Chapter 5 and 6 apply to all AQUATIC FACILITIES covered by this CODE regardless of when constructed, unless otherwise noted.

2.1 Overview

2.1.1 New Users

A new user will find it helpful to review the Table of Contents in order to quickly gain an understanding of the scope and sequence of subjects included in the CODE.

2.1.2 Topic Presentations

MAHC provisions address essentially three areas:

1) Aquatic Facility Design & Construction *(Chapter 4)*,
2) Operation & Maintenance *(Chapter 5)*,
3) Policies & Management *(Chapter 6)*.

In addition, an overarching, scientifically referenced explanation of the MAHC as a risk reduction plan is provided in the Annex using the same numbering format for easy cross reference.

2.2[A] MAHC Structure and Format

2.2.1 Numbering System

The CODE follows a numeric outline format. The structural numbering system having different indent, font and color size in the document is as follows:

1.0 Chapter

1.1 Part

1.1.1 Subpart

1.1.1.1 Section

1.1.1.1.1 Paragraph

1.1.1.1.1.1 Sub-Paragraph

2.2.2 Title, Keyword, Phrase Text

On the same line and next to the section number is a title, keyword, or phrase summary showing the information contained in the corresponding MAHC wording below. Each code section number that has annex discussion is denoted with a superscript "A" after the section number *(e.g., 2.0[A])* so readers will know to check the *Annex to the Model Aquatic Health Code* for additional explanation.

2.2.3 MAHC Requirement

Recommended MAHC requirement wording is shown below the number of title, keyword, or phrase. These requirements usually appear in sentence or paragraph format.

2.2.4 Illustrations

Appropriate charts, diagrams, and other illustrative material found in the Chapters will also appear in the Annex.

2.2.5 Consistency Between Chapters 4.0 and 5.0

Each Part or Sub-part is repeated throughout CODE Chapters 4.0 *(Design Standards & Construction)* and 5.0 *(Operation & Maintenance)*. For example, the section titled "Disinfection and pH Control," has two parts:

1) Design recommendations and construction aspects, addressed in MAHC 4.7.3 and
2) Operation and maintenance aspects, addressed in MAHC 5.7.3.

If a topic is not applicable then that section is marked with a N/A *(e.g., the size or width of the DECKING is not applicable for Operation & Maintenance versus Design Standards & Construction)*. This is designed to allow MAHC users to see how a topic of interest applies under both chapter headings.

2.2.6 Conventions

The following conventions are used in the MAHC:

1) "Shall" means the act is imperative, i.e., "shall" constitutes a command.
2) "May not" means absolute prohibition.
3) "May" is permissive and means the act is allowed.
4) "Means" is followed by a declared fact.

2.2.7 Definitions

Both the code and annex have a specific glossary of terms used in either code or annex. Defined glossary words and terms are in "SMALL CAPS" in the text of the CODE and annex chapters to alert the reader that there is a specific meaning assigned to those terms and that the meaning of a provision is to be interpreted in the defined context. A concerted effort was also made to place in "SMALL CAPS" all forms and combinations of those defined words and terms that were intended to carry the weight of the definition.

2.3 Annex to the Model Aquatic Health Code

2.3.1[A] Scientific and Best Practices Rationale

The *Annex to the Model Aquatic Health Code (Annex)* is provided to:

1) Give further scientific and BEST PRACTICE explanations of why certain recommendations are made;
2) Discuss rationale for making the MAHC content decisions;
3) Provide a discussion of the scientific basis for selecting certain criteria, as well as discuss why other scientific data may not have been selected, e.g. due to data inconsistencies;
4) State areas where additional research may be needed;
5) Discuss and explain terminology used; and
6) Provide additional material that may not have been appropriately placed in the main body of suggested MAHC recommendations. This would include summaries of scientific studies, charts, graphs, or other illustrative materials.

2.3.2[A] Content

The annex was developed to support the MAHC Code language and is meant to provide additional help, guidance, and scientific and BEST PRACTICE rationale to those responsible for using the MAHC. Statements in the annex are intended to be supplements and additional explanations. They are not meant to be interpreted as MAHC Code wording or used to create enforceable CODE language.

2.3.3 Bibliography

The MAHC Code and Annex Section 3.3 includes a list of CODES specifically referenced in each respective document. The annex also contains a bibliography of the reference materials, and scientific studies that form the basis for MAHC recommendations.

2.3.4 Appendices

The MAHC Annex Appendices supply additional information or tools that may be useful to the reader of the MAHC Annex and Code.