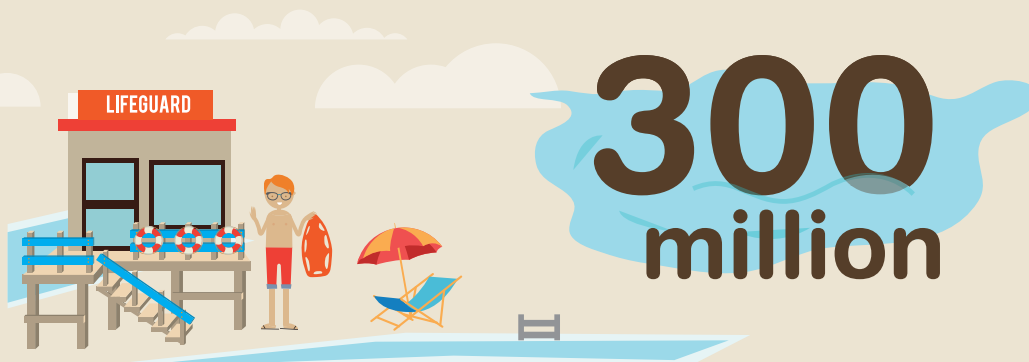




The Problem

The Model Aquatic Health Code

The MAHC is a free resource, based on science and best practices, to help state and local health professionals make swimming and other wateractivities healthier and safer.



Trips people in the U.S. make to pools and other swimming areas each year

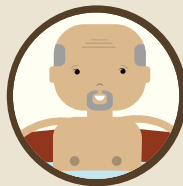
People who swim can enjoy



Increased physical & mental health



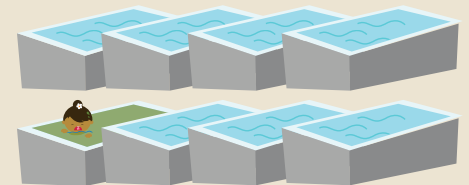
Lower risk for chronic diseases, joint & muscle pain, death



Increased quality of life & decreased disability in older age

But some places we swim aren't clean or safe.

1 in 8



Pools closed immediately on routine inspection for critical health and safety problems

Problems can lead to:

Drowning

A leading cause of unintentional injury-related death for children ages 1-14, second only to motor vehicle crashes

Outbreaks

Rise in recreational water illness outbreaks: 12/year in early 1990s to 41/year in late 2000s—a single outbreak can sicken thousands

Chemical Injuries

Almost 5,000 people visited the ER in 2012 for an injury from a pool chemical—almost half of visits were among kids

Help make swimming healthier and safer.



The Process

The Model Aquatic Health Code

The MAHC is a free resource, based on science and best practices, to help state and local health professionals make swimming and other wateractivities healthier and safer.

7 years



12 technical committees



140 people



Input and consensus from public health, aquatics, academia

2 rounds of public comment

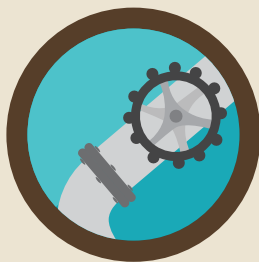


4,407 comments

Received from partners, industry, public health, and interested public

¾ of comments accepted

14 topic areas



Preface,
user guide, glossary

Contaminationburden

Disinfection
& water quality

Facility design
& construction



Facility maintenance &
operation

Hygiene facilities

Lifeguarding
& bather supervision

Monitoring & testing



Operator training

Regulatory

Risk management
& safety

Ventilation & air quality



Fecal/vomit/blood
contamination response

Recirculation systems
& filtration

Help make swimming healthier and safer.



The Product

The Model Aquatic Health Code

The MAHC is a free resource, based on science and best practices, to help state and local health professionals make swimming and other wateractivities healthier and safer.

68% of local health departments regulate or inspect public swimming pools and facilities.

The MAHC is NOT a federal law. It's voluntary, model guidance to help reduce the burden on state and local pool programs that individually write their own codes.

Use the MAHC

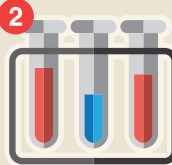


1



To update existing codes for public swimming pools and other aquatic facilities

2



To incorporate guidelines based on science and best practices into state and local aquatic programs

3



However you want: use, change, and incorporate the entire MAHC—or just pieces of it—into state or local health codes

The MAHC can help:



Prevent drowning, illness, and injury



Raise minimum standards and reduce inspection violations



Keep pools open for more summer and year-round fun

Help make swimming healthier and safer.

