

# AVOID THESE Top 5

Below are the top five (5) public bathing place violations cited by the OK State Department of Health in 2014. Review these tips for ways to keep them off your inspection report.

## 1. Flow meter / flow rate (#19)

- Ensure flow meters are in working order
- Soak in vinegar and rinse out clogged flow meters
- Have a back-up meter on-hand to replace soaking flow meters
- Call a pool maintenance specialist to replace if needed

## 2. Total Alkalinity between 80 – 200 ppm (#34)

- Test Total Alkalinity (TA) once a week
  - Record results on pool log\*
- Adjust for TA AFTER free available chlorine (FAC) is balanced; but BEFORE pH
- Ensure high metals in the water are not interfering with test results
- To RAISE TA levels: use Sodium Bicarbonate
- To lower TA levels: use Muriatic Acid (liquid) or Dry Acid (sodium bisulfate)

## 3. Free Available Chlorine < 1ppm; or bromine < 2ppm (#31)

- Test for Free Available Chlorine (FAC)/Bromine 4 times a day
  - Record all four results DAILY on pool log\*
- Always balance FAC/Bromine before any other chemical (i.e. T.A., pH, Calcium)
- Maintain cyanuric acid levels in outdoor chlorine pools to help slow down loss of FAC
- To RAISE FAC levels: use Calcium Hypochlorite or Sodium Hypochlorite
- To lower FAC levels: use Sodium Thiosulfate or Sodium Sulfite (or allow pool to filter over time before opening)

## 4. Decks, gutter, pool finish: Clean, good repair (#6)

- Conduct a routine walk-thru to look at pool equipment for proper operation
- Ensure pool decking clear of debris; repair broken, chipping pool decking
- Ensure tiles, pool finish are clean and not cracked; repair as necessary
- Keep gutters clean of debris; ensure skimmer baskets not cracked/missing
- Ensure weir is in working order

## 5. \*Records kept: Required testing done; Inspection posted (#29)

- Maintain DAILY record/testing logs (search [www.health.ok.gov](http://www.health.ok.gov) for a pool log template)
  - Free Available Chlorine = 4 x day
  - Bromine = 4 x day
  - pH = 4 x day
  - Turbidity = 4 x day
  - Plus other DAILY tests
  - Plus other WEEKLY tests