

**UNIFORM BUILDING CODE COMMISSION
RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOL & SPA
TECHNICAL CODE REVIEW COMMITTEE (RSPSTC)
PRESENTATION**

Recommendations for modifications to the 2024
Edition of the International Swimming Pool and Spa
Code® (ISPSC)

Presented by: Austin Horton, Chairman

Date: DATE



OKLAHOMA

Committee Members:

Commission Liaison:

Todd Booze (General Contractor – Residential Construction)

Committee Volunteers:

Austin Horton, Architect/Engineer

Robin Allen, Alternate Residential Home Builder

Jayne Austin, Residential Plumbing Code Official

Rusty Britton, Alternate Residential Pool Contractor

Bob Kolibas, Residential Building Code Official

Caleb Lester, Alternate Code Official

Ryan Russell, Residential Home Builder

Clayton Thomas, Residential Pool Contractor

Michael Zimmerman, Residential Electrical Code Official

Chapter Summary:

Chapters 1-3 and 7-11 were reviewed

Chapters 1, and 7-11 were approved as written

Chapter(s) 2 was approved as amended



General Summary Information:

The RSPSTC conducted a thorough, formal review of the 2024 edition of the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code[®], Chapters 1-3 and 7-11

Code Change Proposal/Existing Rule Summary:

28 Code Change proposal forms were received and reviewed

- 1 Code change proposal form was revised and resubmitted
- 1 Code change proposal form was withdrawn by the submitter
- 17 Code change proposal forms were approved as submitted
- 1 Code change proposal form was approved as amended
- 1 Code change proposal forms were denied

1 Existing rule review form was reviewed

- 1 Existing rule form was approved as written



Swimming Pool and Spa Ad Hoc Committee:

Because both the Commercial and Residential Swimming Pool and Spa Committees were reviewing and proposing amendments to the same code book and shared chapters, each committee reviewed the code change proposals approved by the other committee and voted to approve or deny them. Several proposals were tabled after questions and concerns remained unresolved.

To address those outstanding issues, an ad hoc committee consisting of the Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Commission Liaisons from both committees met on April 29, 2026 to review the tabled proposals requiring additional discussion and clarification. No official action was taken, and all proposals were returned to the respective committees for further review and formal action.



2024 International Residential Code Existing Rules Recommended for Deletion

As part of their review of the 2024 edition of the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code® (ISPSC®), the RSPSTC committee looked at each existing rule modification in the adoption of the 2024 IRC®. During their review, they determined some existing rules were no longer needed. The following slides show the 2024 rule modifications that the committee felt were no longer needed.



Code Change Proposal Form: RSPSTC-10 deleting 2024 IRC® rules related to swimming pools

~~(c) The OUBCC hereby creates a new appendix BQ, entitled "Appendix BQ, Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs." Section R328.1 entitled "General" has been modified and the original language published in this section has been removed from Chapter 3 of the IRC® 2024 and relocated to Appendix V BQ entitled "Appendix BQ Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs.~~

~~(20) Section R328.1 General. This section has been modified to remove the requirement for the construction of swimming pools, spas, and hot tubs to comply with the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code™ to the newly created Appendix BQ, entitled "Appendix BQ, Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs," and has been renumbered in Appendix BQ to become BQ101. This section number R326.1 Section R328.1 has the same title with new language added to require new swimming pools, spas and hot tubs requiring a permit to comply with Sections R328.2 through R328.5. This section has been modified to read: R328.1 General. Residential swimming pools, spas, and hot tubs requiring a permit shall comply with Sections R328.2 through R328.5.~~

~~(21) Section R328.2 Enclosure. This section has been added to provide enclosure requirements for residential swimming pools, spas, and hot tubs. This section has been added to read: R328.2 Enclosure. Swimming pools shall be completely enclosed by a fence or barrier not less than 4 feet (1219 mm) in height or a screen enclosure. Openings in the fence or barrier shall not permit the passage of a 4-inch-diameter (102 mm) sphere. Exceptions: (A) Exception 1. Swimming pools, spas and hot tubs on lots in excess of 2 acres are exempt from the requirements. (B) Exception 2. A swimming pool with a power safety cover or a spa with a safety cover complying with ASTM F 1346 need not comply with this section.~~



~~(22) Section R328.3 Gates. This section has been added to provide gate requirements for residential swimming pools, spas and hot tubs. This section has been added to read: R328.3 Gates. Exterior pedestrian access doors or gates shall be self-closing and have a self-latching device. Doors or gates other than pedestrian access doors or gates shall have a self-latching device. Where the release mechanism of the self-latching device is located less than 54 inches (1372 mm) from the bottom of the door or gate, the release mechanism shall be located on the pool side of the door or gate, 3 inches (76 mm) or more below the top of the door or gate, and the door or gate and barrier shall be without openings greater than 1/2 inch (12.7 mm) within 18 inches (457 mm) of the release mechanism. Exception: Gates equipped with a locking device.~~

~~(23) Section R328.4 Suction outlet fitting assemblies. This section has been added to clarify all suction outlet fitting assemblies shall be listed and labeled in compliance with ANSI/APSP/ICC 16. This section has been added to read: R328.4 Suction outlet fitting assemblies. Suction outlet fitting assemblies shall be listed and labeled in compliance with ANSI/APSP/ICC 16.~~

~~(24) R328.5 Entrapment avoidance. This section has been modified to require suction entrapment avoidance for pools and spas to comply with ANSI/APSP/ICC 7 and provide an exception for portable spas and portable exercise pools listed in accordance with UL 1563 or CSA C22.2 No 218.1. This section has been modified to read: R328.5 Entrapment avoidance. Suction entrapment avoidance for pools and spas shall be provided in accordance with ANSI/APSP/ICC 7. Exception: Portable spas and portable exercise pools listed in accordance with UL 1563 or CSA C22.2 No 281.1.~~

748:20-6-49. IRC® 2018-2024 Chapter 44 Referenced Standards

Chapter 44 of the IRC® 2018-2024 has been adopted with the following modifications:



~~(2) A reference for the standard ANSI/APSP/ICC 7-20 has been added to the chapter. This section has been added to read: ANSI/APSP/ICC 7-20 American National Standard for Suction Entrapment Avoidance in Swimming Pools, Wading Pools, Spas, Hot Tubs, and Catch Basins®. Referenced in code section number R326.5.~~

~~(3) A reference for the standard ANSI/APSP/ICC 16-17 has been added to the chapter. This section has been added to read: ANSI/APSP/ICC 16-17 American National Standard for Suction Fittings for Use in Swimming Pools, Wading Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs®. referenced in code section number R326.4.~~

~~(5) A reference for the standard CSA C22.2 No. 218.1-17 has been added to the chapter. This section has been added to read: CSA C22.2 No. 218.1-17. Spas, Hot Tubs and Associated Equipment®. Referenced in code section number R326.5.~~

~~(14) A reference for the standard UL 1563 has been added to the chapter. This section has been added to read: UL 1563-2009: Standard for Electric Hot Tubs, Spas and Associated Equipment®, with revisions through September 2020. Referenced in code section number R326.5.~~

~~748:20-6-51. Appendix BQ, Swimming Pools, Spas, and Hot Tubs~~

~~This appendix has been newly created and entitled "Swimming Pools, Spas, and Hot Tubs." The provisions contained in this appendix are not mandatory unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance or order.~~

~~(1) BQ101 Swimming Pools, Spas, and Hot Tubs. This section header has been added to clarify the sections of text that apply to the general requirements for swimming pools, spas and hot tubs. This section has been added to read: BQ101 Swimming Pools, Spas, and Hot Tubs.~~

~~(2) BQ101 General. This section formerly numbered R328.1 General has been moved into an appendix and has been added to read: BQ101 General. The design and construction of pools and spas shall comply with the International Swimming Pool and Spa Code.~~



Summary of Proposed Change:

The proposal removes language that had previously been inserted into the IRC because the ISPSC had not yet been adopted. With the RSPSTC committee now moving toward adoption of the ISPSC, that supplemental language in the IRC would create redundancy and potential conflict.

Committee Commentary:

The committee reviewed the proposal at the February 19, 2026 meeting. Members discussed that the proposal would remove the added provisions and allow the IRC to revert to the publisher's base text. It was clarified that the 2024 code provisions would remain effective until the next adoption cycle and that corresponding IRC amendments would be implemented at that time to maintain alignment. The committee generally agreed the change was procedural and necessary to avoid conflicting requirements.

Committee Action Taken:

Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form RSPSTC-10 as presented. (2/19/2026)



Proposed Changes to the 2024 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code®

The following slides contain proposed changes to the 2024 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code® (ISPSC®). All proposed amendments whether approved or denied by the committee are included in this section with the submitter's justification for the proposal, committee commentary and committee motion to approve or deny included.



Code Change Proposal Form: CSPSTC-11 – Defining “HOME SHARING FACILITY”

HOME SHARING FACILITY. A residential dwelling unit made available to transient user for short-term overnight lodging in exchange for monetary compensation or commercial consideration pursuant to a posted fee schedule, where sanitation facilities within the dwelling are accessible to occupants during the rental period.

Summary of Proposed Change:

Short-term lodging platforms facilitate rental of residential dwellings — including associated pool amenities — to transient overnight users. While this use pattern presents a lower public health risk than pool sharing arrangements due to lower bather turnover and the presence of sanitation facilities within the dwelling, it remains a commercial use that exceeds the scope of a private residential pool classification. The daily rental structure limits cumulative bather load, and the presence of sanitation facilities within the dwelling reduces the contamination risk associated with pool-only rental arrangements. However, the absence of required water quality testing and lack of water chemistry management between rental groups still presents an elevated public health risk above that of a purely private residential pool. Without a specific definition, home sharing facilities with pools occupy a regulatory gray area that neither residential nor existing commercial pool classifications adequately address. This leaves AHJs without a clear and enforceable standard for inspecting and classifying these facilities. The same definitional gaps that have allowed pool sharing platforms to successfully challenge regulation in Wisconsin, North Carolina, Maryland, and New Jersey apply equally to home sharing facilities operating without a defined classification.



This definition establishes clear, compensation-triggered and platform-agnostic language proportionate to the actual risk profile of home sharing pool use. The "posted fee schedule" trigger is observable, future-proof, and distinguishes commercial rental arrangements from casual social use. This change directly impacts life safety by ensuring that pools associated with short-term lodging rentals are subject to appropriate oversight, water quality standards, and inspection requirements commensurate with their actual risk profile while remaining proportionate to the lower risk level relative to pool sharing facilities.

Committee Commentary:

The CSPSTC committee reviewed this proposal at the May 20, 2026 meeting.

The RSPSTC committee reviewed this proposal at the May 21, 2026 meeting.

Committee Action Taken:



Code Change Proposal Form: CSPSTC-14 – Amending definition of “Public Pool/Class C semi-public pool”

PUBLIC POOL, Class C semi-public pool. A pool operated solely for and in conjunction with lodgings such as hotels, motels, apartments, ~~or~~ condominiums, or home sharing facilities as defined in Section 202.

Summary of Proposed Change:

The submitter noted that they visited with several residential and commercial pool contractors that have used compressed air to check pool plumbing their whole careers. None of them had encountered any safety issues with that type of testing or had issues with using water but expressed concern over availability and or temperature issues.

Committee Commentary:

The CSPSTC committee reviewed this proposal at the May 20, 2026 meeting.

The RSPSTC committee reviewed this proposal at the May 21, 2026 meeting.

Committee Action Taken:



Code Change Proposal Form: CSPSTC-12 – Defining “Pool Sharing Facility”

POOL SHARING FACILITY. A residential swimming pool or aquatic amenity made available to transient users in exchange for monetary compensation or commercial consideration pursuant to a posted fee schedule, on an hourly or short-term basis, where no overnight lodging is provided.

Summary of Proposed Change:

Pool sharing platforms facilitate hourly rental of residential pools to transient users. This use pattern creates elevated public health risk due to high bather turnover, absence of required sanitation facilities, lack of required water quality testing, and lack of water chemistry management between rental groups. A residential pool is not designed or equipped to handle the contamination load associated with multiple transient bather groups cycling through in a single day.

Without a specific definition, AHJs lack a clear regulatory hook to classify and inspect these facilities. Jurisdictions that have attempted to regulate pool sharing without defined classifications have faced legal challenges from platform operators exploiting definitional gaps in existing code. Wisconsin's Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection was forced to back down from enforcement after a leading pool sharing platform threatened litigation, specifically because the existing code lacked an intermediate classification between residential and full public pool standards. Similar regulatory challenges have occurred in North Carolina, Maryland, and New Jersey.



As of April 30, 2026, a leading pool sharing platform lists 11 residential pools available for rent in Oklahoma with a combined total of 382 recorded rentals, demonstrating that this use type is already active and unregulated within the state.

This definition establishes clear, compensation-triggered and platform-agnostic language that gives AHJs an enforceable and documentable standard. The "posted fee schedule" trigger is observable, future-proof, and distinguishes commercial rental arrangements from casual social use. This change directly impacts life safety by ensuring that pools operating under a commercial use pattern are subject to appropriate oversight, water quality standards, and inspection requirements commensurate with their actual risk profile.

Committee Commentary:

The CSPSTC committee reviewed this proposal at the May 20, 2026 meeting.

The RSPSTC committee reviewed this proposal at the May 21, 2026 meeting.

Committee Action Taken:



Code Change Proposal Form: CSPSTC-9 – Defining “POOL SHARING” and amending definition of “PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL (Public Pool)/Class C semi-public pool”

POOL SHARING - The act of renting a residential pool for public use independent of the main dwelling and accessory dwelling units located on the property. Pools used for pool sharing shall be classified Class C semi-public pools and shall provide accessible routes and egress in accordance with the IBC and this code and access to sanitary facilities in accordance with Section 410.1 of this code.

PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL (Public Pool). A pool, other than a residential pool, that is intended to be used for swimming or bathing and is operated by an owner, lessee, operator, licensee or concessionaire, regardless of whether a fee is charged for use. Public pools shall be further classified and defined as follows:

Class A competition pool. A pool intended for use for accredited competitive aquatic events such as Federation Internationale De Natation (FINA), USA Swimming, USA Diving, USA Synchronized Swimming, USA Water Polo, National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), or the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS).

Class B public pool. A pool intended for public recreational use that is not identified in the other classifications of public pools.

Class C semi-public pool. A pool operated ~~solely~~ for and in conjunction with lodgings such as hotels, motels, apartments, ~~or~~ condominiums, and pool sharing.



Class D-1 wave action pool. A pool designed to simulate breaking or cyclic waves for purposes of general play or surfing.

Class D-2 activity pool. A pool designed for casual water play ranging from simple splashing activity to the use of attractions placed in the pool for recreation.

Class D-3 catch pool. A body of water located at the termination of a manufactured waterslide attraction. The body of water is provided for the purpose of terminating the slide action and providing a means for exit to a deck or walkway area.

Class D-4 leisure river. A manufactured stream of water of near-constant depth in which the water is moved by pumps or other means of propulsion to provide a river-like flow that transports bathers over a defined path that may include water features and play devices.

Class D-5 vortex pool. A circular pool equipped with a method of transporting water in the pool for the purpose of propelling riders at speeds dictated by the velocity of the moving stream of water.

Class D-6 interactive play attraction. A manufactured water play device or a combination of water-based play devices in which water flow volumes, pressures or patterns can be varied by the bather without negatively influencing the hydraulic conditions for other connected devices. These attractions incorporate devices or activities such as slides, climbing and crawling structures, visual effects, user-actuated mechanical devices and other elements of bather-driven and bather-controlled play.

Class E. Pools used for instruction, play or therapy and with temperatures above 86°F (30°C).



Class F. Class F pools are wading pools and are covered within the scope of this code as set forth in Section 405. Public pools are either a diving or nondiving type. Diving types of public pools are classified into types as an indication of the suitability of a pool for use with diving equipment.

Type O. A nondiving public pool.

Types VI–IX. Public pools suitable for the installation of diving equipment by type.

Summary of Proposed Change:

The submitter shared that pools constructed for residential use are not subject to the same maintenance and care requirements as commercial pools. They are also not required to provide sanitary facilities or accessible access. Depending on the residential lot size and zoning, pool barriers may not be required by local jurisdictions for residential pools. When pools are rented for public use for large gatherings independent of dwelling units, this creates life safety concerns that the homeowner and renters may not be aware of. By defining "Pool Sharing" and classifying it as a Class C Semi-Public pool with a special requirement to provide access to sanitary facilities, these concerns can be mitigated without adding too much burden to homeowners while ensuring safe public use.



Committee Commentary:

The CSPSTC committee reviewed this proposal at the May 20, 2026 meeting.

The RSPSTC committee reviewed this proposal at the May 21, 2026 meeting.

Committee Action Taken:

Code Change Proposal Form: CSPSTC-10 – Amending definition of “Public Pool/Class B public pool”

CLASS B PUBLIC POOL. A pool intended for public recreational use that is not identified in other classifications of public pools. Including pool sharing facilities as defined in Section 202.

Summary of Proposed Change:

Pool sharing platforms facilitate hourly rental of residential pools to transient users. This use pattern creates elevated public health risk due to high bather turnover, absence of required sanitation facilities, lack of required water quality testing, and lack of water chemistry management between rental groups. A residential pool is not designed or equipped to handle the contamination load associated with multiple transient bather groups cycling through in a single day. Without a specific definition, AHJs lack a clear regulatory hook to classify and inspect these facilities. Jurisdictions that have attempted to regulate pool sharing without defined classifications have faced legal challenges from platform operators exploiting definitional gaps in existing code. Wisconsin's Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection was forced to back down from enforcement after a leading pool sharing platform threatened litigation, specifically because the existing code lacked an intermediate classification between residential and full public pool standards. Similar regulatory challenges have occurred in North Carolina, Maryland, and New Jersey.



As of April 30, 2026, a leading pool sharing platform lists 11 residential pools available for rent in Oklahoma with a combined total of 382 recorded rentals, demonstrating that this use type is already active and unregulated within the state. This definition establishes clear, compensation-triggered and platform-agnostic language that gives AHJs an enforceable and documentable standard.

The "posted fee schedule" trigger is observable, future-proof, and distinguishes commercial rental arrangements from casual social use. This change directly impacts life safety by ensuring that pools operating under a commercial use pattern are subject to appropriate oversight, water quality standards, and inspection requirements commensurate with their actual risk profile.

Committee Commentary:

The CSPSTC committee reviewed this proposal at the May 20, 2026 meeting.

The RSPSTC committee reviewed this proposal at the May 21, 2026 meeting.

Committee Action Taken:



Code Change Proposal Form: RSPSTC-1 – Adding a definition of “POOL/SPA SURFACE”

POOL/SPA SURFACE. The material or assembly of a pool's or spa's floor(s) and walls which provides the waterproof barrier and finish.

Summary of Proposed Change:

This code change proposal was submitted at the same time as code change proposal RSPSTC-3 defining “Resurfacing” from the same submitter. The submitter noted that adding the definition of Pool/Spa surface would add further clarity to “Resurfacing” as it pertains to pools and spas.

Committee Commentary:

The RSPSTC reviewed this proposal at the January 15, 2026 meeting. It was shared that the proposed definition was intended to clarify that the pool or spa surface consisted of the material or assembly of floors and walls that provide a waterproofing barrier and finish. The committee agreed that the definition improved clarity and reduced interpretive disputes. Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form RSPSTC-1 as presented. (1/15/2026)

The ad hoc committee reviewed the proposal at the April 29, 2026 meeting. Concerns were raised that terms such as “waterproof barrier” were inaccurate for common pool materials and could create confusion and inconsistent enforcement. The committee discussed that the proposal’s intent was to clarify that resurfacing was a type of repair tied to safety upgrades during remodel work, but ultimately agreed the existing repair language and revisions to Section 311.2 were sufficient and recommended withdrawing the proposed definition.

Committee Action Taken:

Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form RSPSTC-1 as presented. (1/15/2026)



Code Change Proposal Form: RSPSTC-11 – Amending definition of “PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL (Public Pool)”

PUBLIC SWIMMING POOL (Public Pool)

A pool, other than a residential pool, that is intended to be used for swimming or bathing and is operated by an owner, lessee, operator, licensee or concessionaire, regardless of whether a fee is charged for use. Public pools shall be further classified and defined as follows:

Class A competition pool. A pool intended for use for accredited competitive aquatic events such as Federation Internationale De Natation (FINA), USA Swimming, USA Diving, USA Synchronized Swimming, USA Water Polo, National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), or the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS).

Class B public pool. A pool intended for public recreational use that is not identified in the other classifications of public pools.

Class C semi-public pool.

A pool operated solely for and in conjunction with lodgings such as hotels, motels, apartments or condominiums, or in conjunction with a Homeowners Association (HOAs).

Class D-1 wave action pool. A pool designed to simulate breaking or cyclic waves for purposes of general play or surfing.

Class D-2 activity pool. A pool designed for casual water play ranging from simple splashing activity to the use of attractions placed in the pool for recreation.



Class D-3 catch pool. A body of water located at the termination of a manufactured waterslide attraction. The body of water is provided for the purpose of terminating the slide action and providing a means for exit to a deck or walkway area.

Class D-4 leisure river. A manufactured stream of water of near-constant depth in which the water is moved by pumps or other means of propulsion to provide a river-like flow that transports bathers over a defined path that may include water features and play devices.

Class D-5 vortex pool. A circular pool equipped with a method of transporting water in the pool for the purpose of propelling riders at speeds dictated by the velocity of the moving stream of water.

Class D-6 interactive play attraction. A manufactured water play device or a combination of water-based play devices in which water flow volumes, pressures or patterns can be varied by the bather without negatively influencing the hydraulic conditions for other connected devices. These attractions incorporate devices or activities such as slides, climbing and crawling structures, visual effects, user-actuated mechanical devices and other elements of bather-driven and bather-controlled play.

Class E. Pools used for instruction, play or therapy and with temperatures above 86°F (30°C).

Class F. Class F pools are wading pools and are covered within the scope of this code as set forth in Section 405.

Public pools are either a diving or nondiving type. Diving types of public pools are classified into types as an indication of the suitability of a pool for use with diving equipment.

Type O. A nondiving public pool.

Types VI–IX. Public pools suitable for the installation of diving equipment by type.



Summary of Proposed Change:

The proposed definition was described as providing a clearer distinction between residential pool use and commercial or public pool use so code officials and municipalities would have a clear basis for enforcement when residential pools were used in ways that exceed residential design intent.

Committee Commentary:

This proposal was reviewed at the February 19, 2026 meeting. Discussion addressed the growing practice of residential pools being rented for events or short-term use through online platforms. Examples were discussed involving homeowners renting pools for large gatherings, including birthday parties and events involving pets. Concerns were raised regarding water quality, sanitation, bather load, and life safety when residential pools were used for commercial style gatherings. Contractors described liability concerns when a pool built as residential is later used for high occupancy events. The proposed definition clarification was described as providing a clearer distinction between residential pool use and commercial or public pool use so that code officials and municipalities would have a clear basis for enforcement when residential pools were used in ways that exceed residential design intent. Additional discussion addressed possible conflicts with property rights and potential legislative scrutiny. The committee concluded that the clarification did not prohibit renting property but clarified how the pool must be classified when used for high occupancy or commercial activity.

Committee Action Taken:

Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form RSPSTC-11 as presented. (2/19/2026)



Code Change Proposal Form: RSPSTC-12 – Amending definition of “RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOL”

RESIDENTIAL SWIMMING POOL (Residential Pool). A pool intended for use that is accessory to a residential setting and available only to the household and its guests. Other pools, including pools used to generate commerce through pool sharing, shall be considered to be public pools for purposes of this code.

Summary of Proposed Change:

The submitter noted the definition has been modified to clarify that pools used for revenue generation through “pool sharing” are not residential pools. The increased occupant volume created by "pool sharing" is not considered in the requirements for a residential pool. The "pool sharing" pool is acting more in line with a public pool, and can see exponentially more users in a set period of time than was designed for a household and guest(s). The submitter noted that there is generally a presumption that a pool open to the public, especially when there is an entry fee, is safe and compliant with applicable codes, but a residential pool used in this manner can present a life safety risk to unknowing occupant.

Committee Commentary:

The RSPSTC reviewed the proposal at the February 19, 2026 meeting. The committee discussed the definition of residential swimming pools in light of growing use for revenue through short term rentals and pool sharing platforms. Examples included multiple daily parties, pet events, and high bather loads exceeding typical residential design limits. Concerns were raised that these uses can overwhelm water treatment systems, create sanitation risks, and introduce life safety issues, while the public often assumes any available pool is safe.



Committee Commentary continued:

The committee also discussed contractor liability when residential pools are used in a semi-commercial manner, noting that clearer code language would help address enforcement challenges and provide protection in disputes. While acknowledging sensitivity around private property rights, the committee agreed the proposal does not prohibit rentals but clarifies that pools used for commerce should be treated as public pools, supporting public health, safety, and consistent enforcement.

The ad hoc committee reviewed the proposal at the April 29, 2026 meeting. Concerns were raised regarding increasing use of short term rental properties, pool sharing applications, and hourly pool rental services that subjected residential pools to commercial style occupancy and higher bather loads. The committee discussed sanitation, water treatment, circulation turnover, supervision, liability, and life safety concerns associated with transient users unfamiliar with pool safety systems and emergency shutoffs. Differences between Airbnb style rentals and pool only rental services were discussed, including restroom access and other required commercial amenities. Concerns were raised that existing residential definitions referring to “guests” could allow commercial pool sharing operations to improperly qualify as residential pools. The committee discussed whether these uses should be classified as public pools or Class C semi public pools and agreed the commercial committee would prepare revised classification language for future consideration.

Committee Action Taken:

Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form RSPSTC-12 as presented. (2/19/2026)



Code Change Proposal Form: RSPSTC-2 – Amending the definition of “REPAIR”

REPAIR. The reconstruction or renewal of any part of a pool or spa for the purpose of its maintenance or to correct damage, including but not limited to resurfacing.

Summary of Proposed Change:

The submitter noted the definition has been modified to make clear that resurfacing is considered a type of repair in accordance with the code. He noted it is to clearly identify resurfacing of existing pools as a type of repair. The intent is that this will prevent resurfacing to be considered an alteration as “renewal of any part” could easily be misinterpreted as resurfacing as a “renewal” of the pool, but the existing surface is typically removed and replaced in its entirety.

Committee Commentary:

The RSPSTC reviewed this proposal at the January 15, 2026 meeting. The committee agreed that the language aligned with existing code intent while adding specificity.

The ad hoc committee discussed the proposal at the April 29, 2026 meeting. The committee decided that the existing definition of “Repair” sufficiently addressed resurfacing activities and that the proposed additional definitions could be unnecessary and potentially confusing. It was agreed that revisions to Section 311.2 provided a clearer mechanism for addressing safety upgrades than adding new definitions within Chapter 2. The committee decided the best action would be to withdraw the proposed definitions related to “Resurfacing” as well as “Pool Surfaces,” and allow the broader “Repair” language to remain unchanged.

Committee Action Taken:

Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form RSPSTC-2 as presented. (1/15/2026)



Code Change Proposal Form: RSPSTC-3 – Adding definition of “RESURFACING”

RESURFACING. Re-plastering, re-tiling, or re-coating an existing pool or spa surface.

Summary of Proposed Change:

The submitter noted the definition has been added to clarify what resurfacing is as it pertains to pools and spas.

Committee Commentary:

The RSPSTC committee reviewed the proposal at the January 15, 2026 meeting. The committee discussed whether the proposed definition covered membranes and alternative lining systems, and agreed that the language was adequately inclusive. Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form RSPSTC-3 as presented. (1/15/2026)

The ad hoc committee reviewed the proposal at the April 9, 2026 meeting. The committee recommended the proposal be withdrawn.

Committee Action Taken:

Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form RSPSTC-3 as presented. (1/15/2026)



Code Change Proposal Form: CSPSTC-2 – Amending Section 302.7 “Tests”

302.7 Tests. Tests on water piping systems constructed of plastic piping shall ~~not use compressed air for the test.~~ be done using water. Exception: If water supply is not available or if the climate is not conducive, an alternate, approved test may be utilized.

Summary of Proposed Change:

The submitter noted that they visited with several residential and commercial pool contractors that have used compressed air to check pool plumbing their whole careers. None of them had encountered any safety issues with that type of testing or had issues with using water but expressed concern over availability and or temperature issues.

Committee Commentary:

This proposal was first reviewed by the Commercial Swimming Pool and Spa Code Technical Review Committee (CSPSTC) at the February 18, 2026 meeting. They discussed concerns with ambiguous wording, particularly “easily accessible,” and emphasized preserving the safety intent favoring water testing. Compressed air hazards were noted, supporting water as the default method. The committee supported allowing an approved alternative when water is unavailable or conditions are unsuitable, with AHJ oversight, but required clearer exception language. They unanimously voted to approve Code Change Proposal Form CSPSTC-2 with amendment to read: “Tests on water piping systems constructed of plastic piping shall be done using water. Exception: If water supply is not available or if the climate is not conducive, an alternate, approved test may be utilized.” (2/18/2026)



Committee Commentary continued:

The RSPSTC reviewed this proposal at the April 16, 2026 meeting. They discussed concerns with using air to do the testing and how that could affect the piping either at the time of the test or over time; what determined if there was an available water source; that jurisdictions routinely required contractors to bring water onto sites to test plumbing for construction of new homes; using water from other nearby available locations; and that the inclusion of the term “approved” was intended to ensure authority having jurisdiction review.

Committee Action Taken:

Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form CSPSTC-2 as amended by the Commercial Swimming Pool and Spa Technical Committee. (4/16/2026)



Code Change Proposal Form: RSPSTC-6 – Adding exception to Section 303.1.2 “Time Switches”

303.1.2 Time switches. Time switches or other control methods that can automatically turn off and on heaters and pump motors according to a preset schedule shall be installed for heaters and pump motors. Heaters and pump motors that have built-in time switches shall be in compliance with this section.

Exceptions:

1. Where public health standards require 24-hour pump operation.
2. Pumps that operate solar- or waste-heat recovery pool heating systems.
3. Not required on residential pools.

Summary of Proposed Change:

The submitter noted this added an exception stating that time switches would not be required on residential pools.

Committee Commentary:

This proposal was reviewed at the February 19, 2026 meeting. The committee noted that most modern pumps and heaters include integrated controls or automation, making separate external time switches largely redundant. The committee agreed the intent was to eliminate the requirement for separate manual time switches in residential applications while recognizing that equipment level controls remain standard.

Committee Action Taken:

Vote of five "for" and one "against" a motion to approve Proposed Code Change Form RSPSTC-6 as presented. (2/19/2026)



Code Change Proposal Form: RSPSTC-7 – Adding exception to Section 303.1.3 “Covers”

303.1.3 Covers. Outdoor heated pools and outdoor permanent spas shall be provided with a vapor-retardant cover or other approved vapor-retardant means in accordance with Section 104.9.1.

Exceptions:

1. Where more than 75 percent of the energy for heating, computed over an operating season of not fewer than 3 calendar months, is from a heat pump or an on-site renewable energy system, covers or other vapor-retardant means shall not be required.

2. Not required on residential pools.

Summary of Proposed Change:

The proposed change added an exception exempting residential pools from the automatic cover requirement.

Committee Commentary:

This proposal was reviewed at the February 19, 2026 meeting. There was discussion on enforcement challenges and noted that while covers can improve efficiency, there is limited practical ability to ensure residential owners consistently deployed them. Members agreed that providing flexibility while removing the residential mandate was appropriate.

Committee Action Taken:

Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form RSPSTC-7 as presented. (2/19/2026)



Code Change Proposal Form: CSPSTC-4 – Creating new subsection, Section 303.1.3.1 “Approved vapor-retardant means”

303.1.3.1 Approved vapor-retardant means. Approved vapor retardant means shall be permitted to include liquid evaporation-suppressant products that are listed and labeled for use in swimming pools or spas and are applied and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.”

Summary of Proposed Change:

The submitter shared that the existing code required a vapor-retardant cover or “other approved vapor-retardant means,” but the latter was undefined, leading to inconsistent enforcement and limiting interpretations to physical covers. The proposal clarified that approved alternatives may include listed and labeled liquid evaporation suppressants applied per manufacturer instructions, recognizing them as a valid option for reducing evaporation and heat loss.

Committee Commentary:

This proposal was first reviewed by the CSPSTC at the February 18, 2026 meeting. The original proposal amended Section 303.1.3 “Covers” by including the language within the section. During discussion, the committee amended the language to no longer be included within Section 303.1.3 but to be a new subsection, Section 303.1.3.1 so that it remained within the cover requirements section of the code.



Committee Commentary continued:

The CSPSTC voted five "for" and one "against" a motion to approve Code Change Proposal Form CSPSTC-4 amended to create subsection 303.1.3.1 titled "Approved vapor-retardant means" reading "Approved vapor-retardant means shall be permitted to include liquid evaporation-suppressant products that are listed and labeled for use in swimming pools or spas and are applied and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.". (2/18/2026)

The RSPSTC reviewed this proposal at the April 16, 2026 meeting. The committee clarified that the requirement did not apply to residential pools.

Committee Action Taken:

Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form CSPSTC-4 as presented. (4/16/2026)



Code Change Proposal Form: CSPSTC-1 – Amending Section 305.2.1 “Barrier height and clearances”

305.2.1 Barrier height and clearances. Barrier heights and clearances shall be in accordance with all of the following:

1. The top of the barrier shall be not less than 48 inches (1219 mm) above grade where measured on the side of the barrier that faces away from the pool or spa. Such height shall exist around the entire perimeter of the barrier and for a distance of 3 feet (914 mm) measured horizontally from the outside of the required barrier.
2. The vertical clearance between grade and the bottom of the barrier shall not exceed 2 inches (51 mm) for grade surfaces that are not solid, such as grass or gravel, where measured on the side of the barrier that faces away from the pool or spa.
3. The vertical clearance between a surface below the barrier to a solid surface, such as concrete, and the bottom of the required barrier shall not ~~exceed 4 inches (102 mm)~~ allow passage of a 4-inch-diameter (102 mm) sphere where measured on the side of the required barrier that faces away from the pool or spa.
4. Where the top of the pool or spa structure is above grade, the barrier shall be installed on grade or shall be mounted on top of the pool or spa structure. Where the barrier is mounted on the top of the pool or spa, the vertical clearance between the top of the pool or spa and the bottom of the barrier shall not ~~exceed 4 inches (102 mm)~~ allow passage of a 4-inch-diameter (102 mm) sphere.



Summary of Proposed Change:

The submitter noted that this change would establish consistent clearance requirements for pool barriers, simplifying design and improving safety by reducing entrapment risks for small children.

Committee Commentary:

This proposal was first reviewed by the CSPSTC at the January 21, 2026 meeting. The committee discussed that the existing code distinguished between horizontal openings and vertical clearances, with commentary explaining the different measurement methods. It was noted that while the current language was clear, the proposal would improve consistency with other guard and railing requirements, which typically do not allow the passage of a 4-inch sphere and align with common inspection practices. The committee also reviewed the difference between language stating “openings shall not exceed 4 inches” and “openings shall not allow the passage of a 4-inch sphere,” noting that the former could permit an exact 4-inch opening while the latter would require a smaller opening. It was further noted that bottom clearances of 4 inches over concrete and 2 inches over grass would still apply. The committee discussed applying the same language change to item 3 as well for consistency. The CSPSTC voted five "for" and one "against" a motion to approve Proposed Code Change Form CSPSTC-1 amended to include “allow passage of a 4-inch-diameter (102 mm) sphere” in Item #3. (1/21/2026)

The RSPSTC reviewed this proposal at the April 16, 2026 meeting. It was shared that the change would help maintain consistency across codes.

Committee Action Taken:

Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form CSPSTC-1 as presented. (4/16/2026)



Code Change Proposal Form: CSPSTC-5 – Adding a new subsection to Section 305.4 “Structure wall as a barrier”

305.4 Structure wall as a barrier. Where a wall of a dwelling or structure serves as part of the barrier and where doors, gates or windows provide direct access to the pool or spa through that wall, one of the following shall be required:

1. Operable windows having a sill height of less than 48 inches (1219 mm) above the indoor finished floor, doors and gates shall have an alarm that produces an audible warning when the window, door or their screens are opened. The alarm shall be listed and labeled as a water hazard entrance alarm in accordance with UL 2017.
2. In dwellings not required to be Accessible units, Type A units or Type B units, the operable parts of the alarm deactivation switches shall be located at not less than 54 inches (1372 mm) above the finished floor.
3. In dwellings that are required to be Accessible units, Type A units or Type B units, the operable parts of the alarm deactivation switches shall be located not greater than 54 inches (1372 mm) and not less than 48 inches (1219 mm) above the finished floor.
4. In structures other than dwellings, the operable parts of the alarm deactivation switches shall be located not greater than 54 inches (1372 mm) and not less than 48 inches (1220 mm) above the finished floor.
5. A safety cover that is listed and labeled in accordance with ASTM F1346 is installed for the pools and spas.



6. An approved means of protection, such as self-closing doors with self-latching devices, is provided. Such means of protection shall provide a degree of protection that is not less than the protection afforded by Item 1 or 2.

7. A listed and labeled pool detection system complying with ASTM F2208.

Summary of Proposed Change:

The proposal adds an alternate compliance pathway and does not remove the existing alarm requirement. The purpose of this requirement is to provide notification of unauthorized access to the pool area. The amendment does not eliminate existing safety requirements and does not reduce barrier protections. It provides an alternative compliance method that may improve detection reliability while maintaining life safety intent.

Committee Commentary:

This proposal was first reviewed by the CSPSTC at the February 18, 2026 meeting. They noted the proposal should be added as an additional item within Section 305.4, rather than creating a new subsection. It was discussed that the detailed performance requirements in the proposal were unnecessary since ASTM F2208 already addresses detection, alarm volume, and activation timing. The committee also noted that required door and window alarms are sometimes installed for inspection but later removed by homeowners. The CSPSTC had a unanimous vote to approve Code Change Proposal Form CSPSTC-5 as modified. (2/18/2026)



Committee Commentary continued:

The RSPSTC reviewed this proposal at the April 16, 2026 meeting. The standard was discussed as addressing residential pool alarm performance requirements and providing an additional compliance option rather than a mandate.

Committee Action Taken:

Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form CSPSTC-5 as modified by the CSPSTC.
(4/16/2026)



Code Change Proposal Form: RSPSTC-8 – Adding exception to Section 306.2 “Slip resistant”

306.2 Slip resistant. Decks, ramps, coping, and similar step surfaces shall be slip resistant and cleanable. Where surfaces are evaluated for slip resistance, such surfaces shall have, when tested wet, a minimum pendulum slip rating classification of P4 if tested in accordance with SA AS4586 or a minimum Dynamic Coefficient of Friction (DCOF) of 0.42 if tested in accordance with ANSI A326. The design professional shall determine the appropriate classification and level of slip resistance necessary based on surface type, placement environment, and pedestrian traffic. Special features in or on decks such as markers, brand insignias, and similar materials shall be slip resistant.

Exception:

1. Not required on residential pools

Summary of Proposed Change:

The proposed change would create an exception allowing homeowners greater discretion in finish materials.

Committee Commentary:

The RSPSTC reviewed the proposal at the February 19, 2026 meeting. The committee discussed the slip resistance requirements for decks surrounding residential pools. Members noted that many residential clients requested decorative materials that may not strictly meet commercial slip resistance criteria. The committee discussed contractor liability, homeowner choice, and the practical reality that residential environments differ significantly from public facilities. Some members observed that contractors typically document material recommendations and can require owner acknowledgment when non preferred surfaces were selected.



Committee Commentary continued:

The ad hoc committee reviewed the proposal at the April 29, 2026 meeting. Concerns were raised that the provisions created subjective enforcement issues and unrealistic testing expectations for residential pools because many common materials, including travertine and stamped concrete, lacked readily available testing documentation. The committee discussed that the requirements could unnecessarily increase residential pool construction costs and restrict commonly used decking materials. It was stated that residential pools should not necessarily be regulated to the same standards as commercial pools, and the committee agreed revised language would be prepared for future consideration.

Committee Action Taken:

Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form RSPSTC-8 as presented. (2/19/2026)



Code Change Proposal Form: RSPSTC-8 R1 – Amending "Slip resistant" and adding Section 306.2.1 "Public Pools"

306.2 Slip resistant.

~~Decks, ramps, coping, and similar step surfaces shall be slip resistant and cleanable. Where surfaces are evaluated for slip resistance, such surfaces shall have, when tested wet, a minimum pendulum slip rating classification of P4 if tested in accordance with SA AS4586 or a minimum Dynamic Coefficient of Friction (DCOF) of 0.42 if tested in accordance with ANSI A326. The design professional shall determine the appropriate classification and level of slip resistance necessary based on surface type, placement environment, and pedestrian traffic. Special features in or on decks such as markers, brand insignias, and similar materials shall be slip resistant.~~

306.2.1 Public Pools.

Where surfaces are evaluated for slip resistance, such surfaces shall have, when tested wet, a minimum pendulum slip rating classification of P4 if tested in accordance with SA AS4586 or a minimum Dynamic Coefficient of Friction (DCOF) of 0.42 if tested in accordance with ANSI A326. The design professional shall determine the appropriate classification and level of slip resistance necessary based on surface type, placement environment, and pedestrian traffic.

Summary of Proposed Change:

The intent is to make sure there isn't any confusion or undue burden brought on residential pools. It was discussed in committee that some materials that are used in residential pools that are considered slip resistant do not necessarily have any testing data.



Committee Commentary:

Committee Action Taken:



Code Change Proposal Form: RSPSTC-13 – Amending Section 307.2.2 “Materials and structural design”

307.2.2 Materials and structural design. Pools and spas shall conform to one or more of the standards indicated in Table 307.2.2. The structural design of pools and spas shall be in accordance with the International Building Code or the International Residential Code, as applicable in accordance with Section 102.7.1 of this code.

~~Exception: Pools and spas constructed with reinforced concrete or reinforced shotcrete with a minimum compressive strength of 2,500 pounds per square inch (175.8 kg/cm²) as designed by a design professional and approved shall be permitted.~~

Summary of Proposed Change:

The submitter noted deleting the exception improves clarity for plan review and inspection and promotes uniform application of the standards referenced by the code. The Authority Having Jurisdiction retains normal approval authority through the building code and the ISPSC administrative provisions.

Committee Commentary:

This proposal was reviewed at the February 19, 2026 meeting. The existing language referenced ACI 318 while also including an exception allowing 2500 psi concrete. Members noted that ACI 318 establishes higher minimum strengths and that the lower value created confusion. Engineering considerations for expansive soils and structural integrity were discussed. The CSPSTC approved an identical code change proposal, CSPSTC-6, at the February 18, 2026 meeting.

Committee Action Taken:

Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form RSPSTC-13 as presented. (2/19/2026)



Code Change Proposal Form: RSPSTC-15 – Adding Sections 307.2.6 “Protection of structures,” 307.2.6.1 “Walls and footings,” 307.2.6.2 “Retaining walls,” and 307.2.6.2.1 “Two Pools”

307.2.6 Protection of structures. Residential pools shall be design and constructed as to not compromise adjacent structures.

307.2.6.1 Walls and footings. Residential pools adjacent to footings and walls shall be a minimum of 48” from the exterior face of walls and footings below and shall not extend into the bearing plane of a footing or wall. The upper boundary of the bearing plane is a line that extends downward, at an angle of 45 degrees (0.79 rad) from horizontal, from the outside bottom edge of the footing or wall.

Exception:

1. A pool designed by a registered design professional.

307.2.6.2 Retaining walls. Residential pools at the high side of a retaining wall shall be a minimum of 60" plus the overall height of the retaining wall away from the closest face of the retaining wall. Residential pools on the low side of a retaining wall shall comply with section 307.2.6.1.

Exception:

1. A pool designed by a registered design professional.

307.2.6.2.1 Two Pools. Residential pools adjacent to a retaining wall that has a pool on the opposite side of the retaining wall shall be designed by a registered design professional.



Summary of Proposed Change:

The submitter noted this proposal is to provide general protection for structures adjacent to residential pools. The intent is to protect the Owner's property and other's property.

Committee Commentary:

The committee reviewed the proposal at the April 16, 2026 meeting. Concerns were raised that the requirement could be overly restrictive for shallow excavations such as tanning ledges. It was determined that additional clarification was necessary, including possible adjustment based on depth or structural impact. The item was tabled for further discussion with the submitter.

Committee Action Taken:

Code Change Proposal Form: RSPSTC-4 – Adding new Section 311.2 “Existing residential pools and spas alterations and repairs”

311.2 Existing residential pools and spas alterations and repairs. Alterations or repairs of existing residential pools and spas shall bring existing pools and spas into compliance with 311.1.

Exceptions:

1 . Portable spas and portable exercise spas listed and labeled in accordance with UL 1563 or CSA C22.2 No. 218.1

2. Suction entrapment avoidance for wading pools shall be provided in accordance with Section 405.

Summary of Proposed Change:

The submitter noted the section has been created to mandate alteration and repairs to existing residential pools and spas include work to comply with Section 311 “Suction Entrapment Avoidance.” The intent is to bring existing residential pools and spas into compliance the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Safety Act enhancing the life safety protections.

Committee Commentary:

The RSPSTC reviewed this proposal at the January 15, 2026 meeting. There was discussion that the proposed language required that alterations and repairs bring existing residential pools and spas into compliance with Section 311.1, which covers suction entrapment protection.



Committee Commentary continued:

It was clarified that exceptions applicable to new construction under Section 311.1 would also apply to existing pools undergoing alterations or repairs. The committee discussed cost considerations, noting that resurfacing projects typically costs thousands of dollars, and that compliance with suction entrapment requirements was a relatively minor additional cost in the overall project budget. Acceptable compliance methods were discussed, including split suction outlets, channel drains, vacuum release systems, and compliant drain covers. It was noted that compliance methods would be determined based on existing pool construction and hydraulic configuration.

The ad hoc committee reviewed the proposal at the April 29, 2026 meeting. The committee agreed that proposed changes to Section 311.2 requiring existing residential pools and spas undergoing alterations or repairs to comply with ANSI/APSP-7 suction entrapment requirements were acceptable.

Committee Action Taken:

Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form RSPSTC-4 as presented. (1/15/2026)



Code Change Proposal Form: CSPSTC-3 – Amending Section 314.4 “Location”

314.4 Location. Pumps and motors shall be provided with access for inspection and service in accordance with the manufacturer’s specifications. or a clear space not less than 18 inches, whichever is greater.

Summary of Proposed Change:

The submitter noted that this change establishes a minimum pump clearance that already falls into current accepted range. The change raises the minimum pump clearance allowed by some manufacturers from 12 inches to 18 inches and will allow a safer more readily accessible work space for pump maintenance and repair.

Committee Commentary:

This proposal was first reviewed by the CSPSTC at the February 18, 2026 meeting. Discussion noted that manufacturer specifications occasionally allowed clearances as small as 12 inches and that a consistent minimum clearance would improve accessibility for service and inspection. The committee confirmed that the proposed language requiring manufacturer specifications to be followed but not less than 18 inches was consistent with typical code language and aligned with other regulatory requirements. The CSPSTC had a unanimous vote to approve Code Change Proposal Form CSPSTC-3. (2/18/2026)



The RSPSTC reviewed this proposal at the April 16, 2026 meeting. Concerns were raised regarding feasibility for residential installations and existing structures, particularly with space limitations and equipment configurations. Options including exceptions for residential pools or separate commercial requirements were considered. It was determined that additional language development was necessary before approval. The proposal was tabled.

The ad hoc committee reviewed the proposal at the April 29, 2026 meeting. Concerns were raised that the requirement was primarily intended for commercial pools and could unnecessarily restrict residential equipment installations, where manufacturers often design compact systems that already comply with installation requirements. The committee noted that manufacturer specifications, electrical workspace requirements, and combustible clearance requirements already addressed access and questioned whether the proposal duplicated existing code provisions. Discussion was held on limiting the requirement to public pools through a separate subsection under Section 314.4.1. It was stated that the Oklahoma State Department of Health would continue enforcing separate commercial pool requirements regardless of the proposal. The committee discussed that the amendment might be unnecessary and recommended the commercial committee consider withdrawing the proposal.

Committee Action Taken:



Code Change Proposal Form: RSPSTC-5 – Amending Section 325.1 “General”

325.1 General. The provisions of this section apply to public and residential pools and spas and aquatic recreation facilities that utilize equipment rooms.

Summary of Proposed Change:

The submitter noted that equipment rooms can create a danger to health and safety of inhabitants. The chemical laden air and water can alter air quality, chlorine or salt water will damage electrical wiring with corrosion that could damage connections and create sparks, and chlorine and salt water will cause wood construction to prematurely deteriorate.

Committee Commentary:

This proposal was reviewed at the February 19, 2026 meeting. Discussion addressed requirements concerning equipment rooms for residential pools. The committee clarified that equipment rooms were not required for residential installations but that when a homeowner chooses to install one the applicable code section should apply. This ensures proper ventilation, corrosion protection, and electrical safety when equipment is enclosed.

Committee Action Taken:

Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form RSPSTC-5 as presented. (2/19/2026)



Code Change Proposal Form: CSPSTC-8 – Amending 325.2 “Requirements”

325.2 Requirements. The equipment area or room floor shall be of concrete or other suitable material having a smooth slip-resistant finish and have positive drainage, including a sump drain pump, if necessary. Floors shall have a slope toward the floor drain or sump drain pump adequate to prevent standing water at all times. The opening to the equipment room or area shall be designed to provide access for all anticipated equipment. At least one hose bibb with backflow preventer shall be located in the equipment room or allow for access within an adequate distance of the equipment room, not more than 50 feet, so that a hose can service the entire room.

Summary of Proposed Change:

The submitter shared that the proposed change allows the hose bibb to be placed adequately to service the pool area and the equipment room with an appropriately sized hose.

Committee Commentary:

The CSPSTC reviewed the proposal at the May 20, 2026 meeting.

Committee Action Taken:



Code Change Proposal Form: CSPSTC-7 – Amending Section 325.10 “Gaseous chlorination space”

325.10 Gaseous Chlorination space. Use of compressed chlorine gas shall be prohibited for new construction and after ~~substantial~~ alteration to existing facilities.

Summary of Proposed Change:

The submitter noted that the proposal removed the word “substantial” in light of the fact that it is rare to find a chlorine gas system for a pool or spa, and to avoid the dangers and life safety hazards of chlorine gas it shall be removed whenever there are alterations to a facility.

Committee Commentary:

This proposal was first reviewed by the CSPSTC at the April 15, 2026 meeting. The committee discussed that the term “substantial” was ambiguous and could lead to inconsistent interpretation and enforcement. It was noted that gaseous chlorine systems were rare in current practice and presented significant life safety risks. Removing the qualifier would simplify enforcement and ensure that any alteration would trigger compliance with the prohibition. The CSPSTC had a unanimous vote to approve Code Change Proposal Form CSPSTC-7. (4/15/2026)

The RSPSTC reviewed this proposal at the April 16, 2026 meeting. The revised language required removal of such systems upon any alteration due to identified safety hazards. The committee agreed with the life safety intent of the proposal.

Committee Action Taken:

Unanimous vote to approve Proposed Code Change Form CSPSTC-7 as presented. (4/16/2026)



Code Change Proposal Form: RSPSTC-14 – Deleting Section 811.1 “Rope and float”

811.1 Rope and float. This section has been moved to the newly created Appendix C, entitled "Rope and Float Requirements" and is not adopted as part of the statewide minimum code for Swimming Pools and Spas within the State of Oklahoma. This section has been renumbered in Appendix C as C101.1. Section B811.1 will stay as part of this code for numbering alignment but will not have any requirements attached to it.

Appendix C

This appendix has been newly created and entitled "Rope and Float Requirements." The provisions contained in this appendix are not mandatory unless specifically referenced in the adopting ordinance or order.

Section C101. General. This section heading has been added to clarify the sections of text applicable to installing rope and float requirements. This section heading has been added to read: C101. General.

Section C101.1 Rope and float. In pools where the point of first slope break occurs, a rope and float assembly shall be installed across the width of the pool. The rope assembly shall be located not less than 1 foot (305 mm) and not greater than 2 feet (610 mm) towards the shallow side of the slope break. Rope anchoring devices shall be permanently attached to the pool wall, coping or deck. Rope ends shall attach to the rope anchor devices so that the rope ends can be disconnected from the rope anchor device.



Summary of Proposed Change:

The submitter noted that safety ropes are not listed as a primary safety measure for drowning prevention and most are immediately removed after inspection.

Committee Commentary:

This proposal was reviewed at the March 19, 2026 meeting. The committee noted the current language requires a rope and float at the first slope break, but modern residential pools often have multiple elevation changes that could result in several rope placements in one pool. It was discussed that the code does not clearly address step transitions or abrupt drop offs, creating ambiguity, especially in designs like zero entry pools and sun shelves. The committee determined there is no consistent industry practice for installing multiple ropes in residential pools, leading to potential enforcement issues.

Safety intent was discussed, noting rope systems are more applicable to public pools where users are unfamiliar with layouts, unlike residential pools where supervision is assumed. Additional concerns included aesthetics and durability, as anchors are often removed after installation, leaving damage or unused hardware. The committee considered adding specific criteria but found it would be complex and inconsistent. Relocating the section to an appendix was discussed as a way to keep guidance optional rather than mandatory.

Committee Action Taken:

Vote of four "for" and one "against" a motion to amend Proposed Code Change Form RSPSTC-14 to move Section 811.1 to the appendix. (3/19/2026)

