HASTINGS PRINCE EDWARD Public Health

Pool Fouling Response

Formed Stool

- 1. **Close the pool.** Do not allow anyone to enter the pool until the disinfection process is completed.
- 2. Turn off circulation and disinfection system.
- 3. Remove as much of the fecal matter as possible (i.e. using a net or bucket) and dispose of it in a sanitary manner. Clean and disinfect the item used to remove the fecal matter.
- 4. VACUUMING STOOL FROM THE POOL IS NOT RECOMMENDED.
- 5. Raise the free available chlorine (FAC) concentration to **2 ppm** with a pH of 7.2 to 7.5
- 6. Apply a local shock treatment at the point of fouling, suggest minimum of 1 gallon of 12% liquid chlorine.
- 7. Turn on the circulation and filtration system and ensure the FAC concentration is maintained at 2 ppm for **at least 30 minutes** to achieve proper disinfection.
- 8. Verify water chemistry and ensure all measurements are within required parameters before re-opening the pool.

Diarrhea or Vomit

- 1. **Close the pool.** Do not allow anyone to enter the pool until the disinfection process is completed.
- 2. Turn off circulation and disinfection system.
- Remove as much of the fecal matter/vomit as possible (i.e. using a net or bucket) and dispose of it in a sanitary manner. Clean and disinfect the item used to remove the fecal matter/vomit. VACUUMING STOOL/VOMIT FROM THE POOL IS NOT RECOMMENED.
- 4. Raise the free available chlorine (FAC) concentration to **20 ppm** with a pH of 7.2 to 7.5

- 5. Resume circulation and filtration system 30 minutes after chlorine is added and circulate for **12 hours** maintaining the FAC at 20 ppm.
- 6. Backwash the filter directly to waste. Do not return the backwash through the filter. Where appropriate, replace the filter media.
- 7. Ensure deck and all items submerged in the pool at the time of the incident are cleaned and disinfected.
- 8. Verify water chemistry and ensure all measurements are within required parameters before re-opening the pool.

NOTE: Document each incident by recording date, time and type of fouling, as well as the response; pre and post FAC and pH levels and length of time of disinfection.

Blood Spills

Pool closure is not required as infectious agents found in blood are killed quickly in properly chlorinated pool water.

For more information contact:

Hastings Prince Edward Public Health
Healthy Environments
179 North Park Street, Belleville, ON K8P 4P1
T: 613-966-5500 ext. 677| TF: 1-800-267-2803 | F: 613-966-9418 | TTY: 711

We are committed to providing accessible publications, programs and services to all. For assistance please call 613-966-5500; TTY: 771 or email accessibility@hpeph.ca. For more information, please visit hpePublicHealth.