



State of New Jersey
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
PO BOX 360
TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0360
www.nj.gov/health

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

JUDITH M. PERSICILLI, RN, BSN, MA
Commissioner

EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE NO. 20-031

**HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS FOR POOLS AND AQUATIC
RECREATION FACILITIES PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDERS
NOS. 153 and 181**

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is a respiratory illness caused by a virus called SARS-CoV-2; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor Philip D. Murphy issued Executive Order 103, declaring the existence of a Public Health Emergency, pursuant to the Emergency Health Powers Act, N.J.S.A. 26:13-1 et seq., and a State of Emergency, pursuant to the Disaster Control Act, N.J.S.A. App A:9-33 et seq., in the State of New Jersey for COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, the Public Health Emergency was extended by Governor Murphy under Executive Orders 119, 138, 151, 162, 171 and 180; and

WHEREAS, COVID-19 is thought to spread mainly through close contact from person to person through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks; and

WHEREAS, on June 18, 2020, Governor Murphy issued Executive Order No. 153, allowing pool facilities, except aquatic recreation facilities, to open to the public; and

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2020, the Department of Health issued Executive Directive No. 20-022, "Health and Safety Standards for Pools and Aquatic Recreation Facilities Pursuant to Executive Order No. 153"; and

WHEREAS, on August 27, 2020, Governor Murphy issued Executive Order No. 181, allowing, *inter alia*, water parks to open their indoor premises to the public subject to certain requirements and if they are in compliance with the health and safety guidelines and standards issued by the Commissioner of the Department of Health; and

WHEREAS, under the declared public health emergency, the Commissioner of the Department of Health is empowered, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 26:13-12, to take all

reasonable and necessary measures to prevent the transmission of infectious disease and apply proper controls and treatment for infectious disease; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUDITH PERSICHILLI, Commissioner of the DOH, pursuant to the powers afforded to me under the Emergency Health Powers Act, hereby ORDER and DIRECT the following:

1. This Executive Directive pertains to facilities with pools as defined in Public Recreational Bathing Rules, N.J.A.C. 8:26-1.3.¹
2. This Executive Directive hereby supersedes Executive Directive No. 20-022, "Health and Safety Standards for Pools and Aquatic Recreation Facilities Pursuant to Executive Order No. 153."
3. Facilities covered by this Executive Directive shall comply with the attached Department of Health protocols, entitled "New Jersey COVID-19 Pools and Aquatic Recreation Facility Standards," as amended and supplemented.

This Directive shall take effect immediately. The provisions of this Directive shall remain in force and effect for the duration of the public health emergency originally declared in Executive Order No. 103 (2020), and as extended by Executive Order, unless otherwise modified, supplemented and/or rescinded.



September 1, 2020

Judith Persichilli, R.N., B.S.N., M.A.
Commissioner

¹ A pool shall mean conventional pools, hot tubs, spas, wading pools, special purpose pools, and aquatic recreation attractions that include, but are not limited to, "pools operated by or serving campgrounds, clubs, churches, cities, common interest communities, counties, day care centers, group home facilities for six or more clients, health spas, institutions, parks, private lake, river, or bay associations, or private community lake, river, or bay associations, State, county, and municipal agencies, retirement communities, schools, specially exempt facilities, subdivisions, or cooperative living type projects of three or more living units, such as apartments, boarding homes, condominiums, hotels, mobile home parks, motels, recreational vehicle parks, townhouses, trailer parks, and youth camps." N.J.A.C. 8:26-1.3.