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# American National Standard for Aquatic Recreation Facilities



Approved  
American National Standards Institute  
October 7, 2004



INTERNATIONAL  
AQUATIC FOUNDATION

**ANSI  
IAF-9 2005**

**American National Standard  
for Aquatic Recreation Facilities**

**Sponsor**

**International Aquatic Foundation**

Approved October 7, 2004

**American National Standards Institute, Inc.**

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It is assumed and intended that pool/spa users will exercise appropriate personal judgment and responsibility and that owners/operators will create and enforce rules of behavior and warning appropriate for their pool/spa.

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## **FOREWORD**

(This foreword is not part of American National Standard ANSI/IAF-9 2005)

The objective of this voluntary standard is to provide recommended minimum guidelines for the design, equipment, operation, and installation of new construction and rehabilitation of public pools for builders, installers, and pool operators. It also is intended to assist government and other regulatory bodies in the development, promulgation and enforcement of public pool criteria.

This standard was prepared by the IAF-9 Writing Committee of the International Aquatic Foundation (IAF) as secretariat in accordance with American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Procedures for the Development and Coordination of American National Standards utilizing the ANSI accredited canvass method. Consensus approval was achieved by ballot of the ANSI accredited canvass list.

The consensus committee that approved this standard was balanced to ensure that individuals from competent and concerned interests have had an opportunity to participate. The proposed standard was made available for public review and comment, which provides an opportunity for additional public input from industry, academia, regulatory agencies and the public-at-large.

Suggestions for improvement of this standard should be sent to the International Aquatic Foundation, P.O. Box 4038, Alexandria, VA 22303.

In accordance with American National Standards Institute (ANSI) procedures, this document will be reviewed periodically. The International Aquatic Foundation welcomes your comments and suggestions as part of its review of the following standards:

ANSI/NSPI-1 2003 Standard for Public Swimming Pools

ANSI/NSPI-2 1999 Standard for Public Spas

ANSI/NSPI-3 1999 Standard for Permanently Installed Residential Spas

ANSI/NSPI-4 1999 Standard for Aboveground/Onground Residential Swimming Pools

ANSI/NSPI-5 2003 Standard for Residential Swimming Pools

ANSI/NSPI-6 1999 Standard for Portable Spas

ANSI/IAF-8 2005 Model Barrier Code for Residential Swimming Pools, Spas and Hot Tubs

## ANSI/IAF-9 2005

### Standard for Aquatic Recreation Facilities

#### 1 Scope and application

**1.1 Scope.** This standard provides specifications for the design, equipment, operation, signs, installation, sanitation, new construction, and rehabilitation of public pools for aquatic play.

Because of their unique use and nature, pools covered by this standard differ from those addressed in *ANSI/NSPI-1 Standard for public swimming pools*. Pools covered by this standard are designed for free-form aquatic play and recreation. To provide for such activity, they often employ high deck-to-water free-board, extensive area of shallow water, water moving at high velocities, bathers moved at speeds, surging and pulsating water, the use of transport or riding vehicles, sprays and streams of water or pressurized air, and the use of energy sources to produce special effects and recreation circumstances.

This standard covers the following Class D pools (see article 3, Definitions.)

- D-1, Wave action pools;
- D-2, Activity pools;
- D-3, Catch pools;
- D-4, Leisure rivers;
- D-5, Vortex pools;
- D-6, Interactive play attractions – water treatment and filtration only.

#### 1.2 Application

**1.2.1** This standard covers public pools and water containment systems used for aquatic recreation and operated by an owner, licensee, or concessionaire, regardless of whether a fee is charged for use.

**1.2.2** Class D-1 pools – D-6 pools are covered whether they are provided as stand-alone attractions or in various combinations in a composite attraction.

**1.2.3** Class D-1 pools – D-6 pools are covered regardless of where they are located, including hotels and other lodging facilities.

**1.2.4** When combinations of Class D-1– D-6 pools occur within a facility, the function of each element shall comply with the standards applicable to the function as though the function is a freestanding pool of its functional Class D-1 – D-6.

**1.2.5 Limitations.** This standard permits variations in equipment, materials, and design to accommodate special needs, access consideration, and advances in technology. These specifications are not intended to prevent the use of other designs provided that any variation from the specifications in this standard provides the required quality, strength, durability, and safety for the intended use.

**1.3 Pools not covered by ANSI/IAF-9.** Any pool not classified as D-1 – D-6 is not covered by this standard.

**1.3.1** The following pools or features are outside the scope of this standard:

- D-7, amusement park attractions;
- D-8, natural bodies of water; and
- waterslides of any type and waterslide-type attractions.

**1.4 Local and state codes.** All pools covered by this standard shall be constructed and operated to comply with all applicable local and state codes.

**1.5 Special environmental concerns.** All pools covered by this standard shall be constructed and operated to comply with all applicable local, state, and federal codes governing safety and environmental regulations as well as safe industry practices.

#### 2 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions that, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this American National Standard. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All