

# Aquatic Facility Rule Fact Sheet #10

What you should know about the Code

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## OAR 333-060-1000, CHAPTER 4

**“Substantial Alteration”** means any major renovation, construction, or modification that significantly impacts the pool's structural, mechanical, or operational systems.

**“Non-Substantial Alteration”** means any minor modification, repair, or maintenance work that does not significantly change the aquatic venue's core structure, operational systems, or capacity.

## PUBLIC HEALTH REASONS:

Changes to an aquatic facility may unintentionally affect water quality, safety, and overall system performance.

Checking with the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) before making changes ensures that updates do not lead to unsafe water, increase the risk of injury or entrapment, or create other safety concerns. Reviewing changes in advance can identify areas that do not meet the rule requirements early and prevent costly fixes for the facility after work has already been done.

## Alterations

When the equipment, enclosure or other parts of a facility are updated, these changes can affect how the facility or venue operates. By contacting the your local county or the Oregon Health Authority before starting any work, staff can review the proposed changes and ensure work is done correctly the first time.

### Facility changes fall into two categories, substantial alterations and non-substantial alterations.

A plan review fee will apply to both categories and these classifications determine the fee that will be applied for the time required to conduct the plan review.

Since changes can impact how your facility operates, checking in before updating any equipment or enclosures allows the local county or the Oregon Health Authority to:

- Review your proposed changes.
- Confirm if you need updated plans or official approvals
- Prevent costly fixes

*Note: Specific alterations may change categories depending on the scope of the changes being made in a particular aquatic venue.*

The following are some examples of both Substantial and Non-Substantial Alterations. Repair of existing facility is not considered an alteration.

### Potential Substantial Alteration examples:

- Changing pool shape
- Removing or constructing new benches, ledges, steps, or ramps
- Changing aquatic venue type (e.g., converting a pool to a splash pad)
- Converting skimmers to gutters and vice versa
- Replacement of enclosure
- Replacement of decking

- Removing, relocating, or altering suction outlets
- Converting from single drain to multiple drain system
- Replacement of entire filtration system with a new type (e.g., sand to cartridge)
- Re-piping of the circulation system (change in total dynamic head)



**Making unapproved changes may result in costly fixes.**

### Potential Non-Substantial Alteration examples:

- Minor deck repairs (not full repl)
- Adding new handrails or ladders
- Adding new tile on horiz. surfaces
- Changing pump types (e.g., single speed to variable speed)
- Adding variable frequency drive
- Updating depth markers
- Installing a new type of chemical feeder (e.g., trichlor to liquid chlorine)
- Adding or removing secondary disinfection (e.g., UV/Ozone)
- Adding or relocating diving boards or starting blocks
- Partial replacement of enclosure
- Partial replacement of decking

