

Aquatic Facility Rules Fact Sheet #3

What you should know about the Code

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Approved Water Quality Testing Kits

OAR 333-060-1000,
CHAPTER 4.7.3.5.1

4.7.3.5.1 Compliance
WQTDs and kits shall be CERTIFIED, LISTED, AND LABELED to NSF/ANSI 50 by an ANSI-accredited certification organization or as approved by the Authority.

OAR 333-062-1000,
CHAPTER 5.7.3.6

5.7.3.6.1 Water Quality Testing Devices (WQTD)

Available WQTDs for the measurement of disinfectant residual, pH, alkalinity, CYA (if used), and temperature, at a minimum, shall be available onsite.

5.7.3.6.1.1 Expiration Dates

WQTDs utilizing reagents shall be checked for expiration at every use and the date recorded.

5.7.3.6.2 Store WQTDs shall be stored in accordance with manufacturer's instructions.

5.7.3.6.3 Temperature
Chemical testing reagents shall be maintained at proper manufacturer specified temperatures.

5.7.3.6.4 Calibration
WQTDs that require calibration shall be calibrated in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and the date of calibration recorded.

Routine testing ensures the safety of swimmers by monitoring key chemical levels. Using the proper test equipment allows pool operators to identify and address potential imbalances that could lead to health risks like bacterial infections, skin irritation, and eye problems. Regular and accurate testing prevents the spread of waterborne illnesses and maintains a clean, safe swimming environment for all users.

All public swimming pools shall have functional test kits or equipment for measuring the pH, free and combined chlorine concentration, or bromine, (or concentration of other approved disinfectant), total alkalinity, turbidity (water clarity) and cyanuric acid if stabilized chlorine is used. It is important for an operator to use equipment that is easy to read and as objective as possible. Titration testing kits are the most accurate of the types of test kits available.

Pool test kits and equipment vary widely and users must choose between chlorine or bromine testing methods. Some examples of approved test kits are:

- The DPD method is the most common for testing chlorine or bromine levels in public pools, turning pink when chlorine is present within the specified range. For colorimetric tests, results are indi-

cated by colors on the test block, while titrimetric tests require adding a second reagent dropwise until the solution clears. A lack of pink color or a quick fade indicates chlorine levels are either too high or nonexistent, necessitating a dilution test.



Testing every 4 hours ensures consistent water quality, reducing risk of illness for bathers.

- ORP (Oxidation-Reduction Potential) is an automated system that measures how effectively the sanitizer, is working in the water. The required ORP range is 600 – 900 mV. Facilities using ORP systems must still test and record actual sanitizer concentration levels in ppm.

Test strips and orthotolidine (OTO) tests are **not** approved methods for recording water quality parameters.