BEST PRACTICES FOR SWIMMING POOL COMPANIES OPERATING UNDER STATE EXECUTIVE ORDERS

All four states in the NESPA region have seen governors issue Executive Orders that swimming pool professionals must understand to conform operations to the Orders. While each individual company needs to utilize the guidance provided from the government to make decisions as to the operation of their business, these are some best practices recommended during COVID-19 outbreak.

- Draft and distribute COVID-19 safe worksite practice policies, based on CDC Guidelines.
- Educate employees on COVID-19 safe worksite practices and document attendance at education meetings.
- Have employees sign the policies and maintain a copy in their employee file.
- Practice worksite “safe-distancing”: limit meetings, group “stand arounds” and toolbox meetings; conduct meetings remotely or at social-distancing distances; break larger meetings into smaller groups to accommodate distancing.
- Demand crews wear PPE, such as masks and gloves and other items recommended based on CDC and OSHA guidance.
- Limit employees on worksites to numbers allowed under Executive Orders. The only employees on site should be those necessary to complete the work being performed.
- Spot check and document crews to ensure compliance with “safe-distancing” practices and PPE requirements. Document spot checks and compliance.
- Prohibit non-essential visitors from entering the worksite, including the homeowner.
- One person – one tool: Reduce/prevent tool sharing.
- Stagger work start/stop times, lunch breaks and port-a-john use.
- Practice healthy behavior: insist on proper handwashing, coughing, sneezing, and provide hand sanitizers and wipes.
- Keep all COVID-19 documents to demonstrate compliance to authorities.

If law enforcement demand your crew leave the site, have the foreman provide them a copy of your practices and explain your compliance. If they insist the crew leave, then leave. Do not fight the authority of the police or other agencies charged with enforcing Executive actions taken in response to the COVID-19 crisis.

This information is being provided to you as a member of the Northeast Spa and Pool association and is intended for your use to make decisions about your individual business during the restrictions put in place as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. If you have concerns about your specific business operation you should consult your attorney. This is not intended to be legal advice.