MEMO REGARDING PENNSYLVANIA POOL RETAIL STORES AS ESSENTIAL

May 12, 2020

In Pennsylvania, Governor Wolf has ordered that essential retail may remain open but must follow mitigation requirements to slow the spread of COVID-19. It is the position of the Northeast Spa and Pool Association that, based on guidance from the State, pool retail stores are essential businesses.

This position is a result of:

- The State listing hardware and home improvement stores as essential retail.
- Pool retail stores being part of the supply chain for pool service companies.
- Pool service and maintenance being classified by the State as an essential service to prevent public health hazards from developing in untreated water.
- Pool stores selling essential sanitizers and chemical disinfectants that prevent the spread of bacteria in pool water and prevent mosquitoes.

Essential retail stores, including pool retail stores, must implement mitigation requirements including but not limited to:

- Cleaning and disinfecting high-touch areas routinely in accordance with CDC guidelines, particularly in spaces accessible to staff, customers, etc.;
- Arranging for contactless pay options, pickup, or delivery of goods wherever possible;
- Requiring regular hand washing, coughing and sneezing etiquette, and proper tissue usage and disposal;
- Placing conspicuous signage at entrances and throughout the store alerting staff and customers to the required 6 feet of distance;
- Requiring workers and customers to wear cloth face coverings and requiring workers to wear gloves.

Important References for Your Retail Business

PA Essential Business FAQ
Operating Guidelines for Essential Businesses in PA

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.