



## To Whom it May Concern:

As a Nation, we are all working together to combat the rapid transmission of the coronavirus (COVID-19). All levels of government are taking action to mitigate the spread of the disease and in some areas drastic steps have been taken including shutting down businesses that are deemed as non-essential. I'm reaching out to you today to make sure you are aware of why the service of pools and spas is essential to both public and personal health, why it is important to allow the completion of open construction projects involving pools, and how companies can continue to provide these critical services while following CDC guidelines to minimize the spread of COVID-19.

### Open, Untreated Water Is Unsafe

Untreated, unfiltered and uncirculated bodies of water allow for the growth and development of a variety of pathogens, as well as mosquito and other insect activity. Residential and outdoor recreational pools should still be maintained at least to a minimum standard. West Nile and other diseases that have been a problem over the years could reappear at a time when we are already in the middle of public health crisis and the healthcare system is taxed. If water is not properly maintained, a swimming pool or spa can become a health risk for the homeowner as well as the public at large. Consistent management of water chemistry and sanitation is essential. During the current public health crisis with COVID-19, it is important to continue to be vigilant with water sanitation to minimize the risk of additional public health concerns.

### CDC Supports Good Sanitation Prevents Disease Spread

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) continues to report that there is no evidence that COVID-19 can be spread to humans using pools and hot tubs. Proper operation, maintenance, and disinfection (e.g., with chlorine and bromine) of pools and hot tubs should remove or inactivate the virus that causes COVID-19. If people are going to use their pools, it is essential that they are maintained properly.

### Drowning Prevention

Maintaining water clarity in a swimming pool is also a critical layer of protection in preventing accidental drowning. Murky waters can hinder the identification and rescue of children as well as adults who are drowning. Additionally, swimming pool service providers can advise homeowners and commercial facility managers on the maintenance of mandated safety requirements around swimming pools including fencing, alarms and other layers of protection.

### Pennsylvania Orders Only Life-Sustaining Business to Stay Open

Gov. Tom Wolf orders all Pennsylvania businesses that aren't 'life-sustaining' to close effective Thursday, March 19, 2020. The state has put together a document outlining what businesses can and cannot operate.

- [View the Guidance from the State](#)

We believe based on this guidance that Pool & Spa Service falls under an essential business (Other Services/Repair & Maintenance/Personal & Household Goods Repair and Maintenance).

### Retail Trade

Building Material, Garden Equipment, and Supplies Dealers

**For more information, please go to our website: [www.carltonpools.com](http://www.carltonpools.com).**

Thank You,

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Carlton Pools