

# Pool of Knowledge

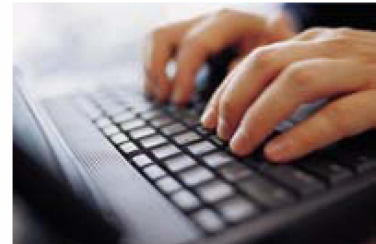


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## E-Plan Submission Process

DEHS is now offering operators the option of submitting plans electronically. This includes plans for construction or remodeling at pools/spas, food facilities, camps, etc.

Plans may be submitted by email to [ehsplanreview@gmail.com](mailto:ehsplanreview@gmail.com). Although this process is not mandatory, there are a number of advantages for operators who submit plans electronically. They will save money on printing costs, and will avoid having to pay for postage to mail the plans. Additionally, the turn-around time for operators to receive a decision on a plan will be much faster. At this point in time, fees are still paid in person or by mail. DEHS is in the process of creating a system where operators can submit plans and pay fees through an online portal.



If you have any questions, please call our Plan Check Program at (800) 442-2283.

## Weekend Maintenance

This is a friendly reminder that your public pool or spa should receive daily care. The weather has been very hot lately, and many people try to stay cool by taking a refreshing swim in the pool. Pools and spas are generally used even more during the weekend. Please remember to check for proper chemical levels and other maintenance issues, even on weekend days.



## Drowning – A Silent Killer

Did you know that drowning is the second leading cause of unintentional injury death for children between the ages of 1 and 14? It is also the fifth leading cause of death for people of all ages. About ten people die from drowning each day.

A little known fact is that 90% of children that drown were under supervision when they died (source: National Safe Kids Campaign). Many people think that when someone's drowning, they are screaming, yelling for help, or otherwise making a lot of noise. This is how drowning is generally portrayed on television or in the movies. However, most drowning is actually silent. Therefore, adults may not recognize that a child is in distress and in the process of drowning because they are not making noise.

For more information about drowning, visit the CDC's webpages [Unintentional Drowning: Get the Facts](#) and [Drowning Risks in Natural Water Settings](#). The [Pool Safely website](#) also has helpful information on drowning prevention and pool safety for parents and families, as well as pool/spa operators.



## ***Naegleria fowleri***

*Naegleria fowleri* is often called the brain-eating amoeba. According to the CDC, "it can cause a rare and devastating infection of the brain called primary amebic meningoencephalitis." This disease has been in the news lately, as there have been several infections in the United States. Unfortunately, this disease is usually fatal.

This amoeba is found in rivers, lakes, ponds, hot springs, and other warm freshwater sources. It can also be found in soil. A person can become infected with this amoeba when they go swimming or diving in warm freshwater places. The amoeba enters the person's body through their nose, and then travels to the brain.

Because infected individuals usually die, prevention is crucial. Please visit the [CDC's webpage](#) for more information, and [also check out their fact sheet](#) about the disease.



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*If you have any questions or comments, please contact Amanda Gaspard, Health Education Specialist, at 800-442-2283 or [Amanda.Gaspard@dph.sbcounty.gov](mailto:Amanda.Gaspard@dph.sbcounty.gov).*

