

**MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR**

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The Environment Department's mission is to protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations.

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As summer approaches, Environment Department conducting inspections at public swimming pools*Inspections continuing under color-coded risk framework*

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) is now conducting inspections at public pools across the state. Public pools are eligible to reopen under the state's current Public Health Order and color-coded COVID-19 risk framework.

Under the current [Public Health Order](#), public pool capacity is determined depending on how they are used:

- Pools used for recreational activities (such as water parks, splash pads, kiddie pools, pools at hotels/motels and apartment complexes, and pools operated by homeowner associations that are not strictly limited to physical therapy or socially distanced exercise) may operate under the following capacities:
 - a. Red – at 25% capacity (outdoor space only)
 - b. Yellow – at 33% capacity (outdoor space only)
 - c. Green – at 50% capacity of any outdoor space / 25% of any enclosed space
 - d. Turquoise – at 75% capacity of any outdoor space / 50% of any enclosed space
- Pools used solely for physical therapy or socially distanced exercise such as lane swimming may operate under the following capacities:
 - a. Red – at 25% capacity (outdoor or enclosed space)
 - b. Yellow – at 33% capacity (outdoor or enclosed space)
 - c. Green – at 50% capacity (outdoor or enclosed space)
 - d. Turquoise – at 75% capacity of any enclosed space / 100% capacity of any outdoor space

Public communal spas and hot tubs are still required to remain closed. The state's COVID-19 guidelines are subject to change depending on the status of the virus in New Mexico.

There are 1,200 public pools across the state that fall under the jurisdiction of NMED. Per state law, NMED ensures public safety at each public pool annually. Through these inspections, NMED helps to prevent infections, injuries and accidental deaths at these facilities. **NMED does not conduct inspections at public pools in Bernalillo County and Albuquerque, which administer their own pool safety programs.**

All public pools must adhere to the [CDC's Considerations for Public Pools, Hot Tubs, and Water Playgrounds During COVID-19](#) as well as the "[All Together New Mexico](#)" [COVID-safe Practices for Individuals and Employers](#).

To schedule an inspection, call your local NMED [field office](#). Visit the NMED public pool [website](#) for more information.

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The Environment Department's mission is to protect and restore the environment and to foster a healthy and prosperous New Mexico for present and future generations. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, NMED's Occupational Health and Safety Bureau kept nearly 9,000 businesses open, 300,000 employees protected and countless New Mexico families safe by conducting more than 30,000 COVID-19 rapid responses. The agency oversees more than 1,000 public drinking water systems serving nearly all 2 million New Mexicans, in addition to programs that protect our land, air and water.

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NMED does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability, age or sex in the administration of its programs or activities, as required by applicable laws and regulations. NMED is responsible for coordination of compliance efforts and receipt of inquiries concerning non-discrimination requirements implemented by 40 C.F.R. Parts 5 and 7, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Section 13 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972. If you have any questions about this notice or any of NMED's non-discrimination programs, policies or procedures, you may contact:

Kathryn Becker, Non-Discrimination Coordinator | NMED | 1190 St. Francis Dr., Suite N4050 | P.O. Box 5469 | Santa Fe, NM 87502
(505) 827-2855 or nd.coordinator@state.nm.us

If you believe that you have been discriminated against with respect to a NMED program or activity, you may contact the Non-Discrimination Coordinator.

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