

FAUQUIER COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION
POLICY

TITLE: Water Quality
FILE #: L
DATE PROPOSED: 11/06/02
DATE APPROVED: 11/06/02, 10/6/04, 1/4/06

Purpose: In order to ensure the health of park users, as well as protect the natural environment, an ongoing system of checks and appropriate actions is needed to protect water resources entrusted to the parks and recreation department.

Drinking water:

Potable water sources that are not provided by a regulated source, e.g. Water and Sanitation Authority, shall be tested by an independent approved organization. Testing for bacteria shall occur every three months, testing for nitrates once every year and testing for metals every three years. The test results shall be submitted to the Director for record keeping and appropriate response if required.

Lakes/ponds:

Standing water resources used for non-swimming activities shall be tested monthly for the items listed below, and may include other testing requirements as set forth in a specific certification from the State Water Control Board for each specific body of water under Fauquier County Parks and Recreation Department control. The results should be checked for any unusual reading, which will be reported to the Director and investigated in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Department of Environmental Quality and State Water Control Board. The results should also be made available to the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and Department of Environmental Quality for use in cooperatively managing the department's resources.

1. Depth/Ft.
2. Temperature/F
3. Turbidity/JTU
4. Dissolved Oxygen/ppm
5. Nitrate Nitrogen/ppm
6. Phosphate/ppm
7. pH

Standing water resources located on department facilities used for swimming should also be tested for e.coli every month when the water is open for swimming. The test results shall be submitted to the Director for record keeping and appropriate response if required.

Streams:

Streams running through Department facilities where the public is likely to come into contact with the stream and that are not already being tested by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality shall be tested for e.coli May, June, July, August, September. Streams already being tested by the Department of Environmental Quality can be found on the Department of Environmental Quality's website. The test results shall be submitted to the Director for record keeping and appropriate response if required. In accordance with Virginia Department of Health suggested guidelines, any stream tested with fecal coliform counts that exceed 200/100 ml shall be posted with appropriate signage.

Pools:

A pool operator shall test the water in one-hour intervals when the pool or spa is open. The results shall be recorded on Operating Record forms supplied by the Health Department. The initial test must be performed one-half hour before opening.

The following items shall be recorded hourly:

1. Free Chlorine residual
2. Combined chlorine residual
3. pH
4. Water clarity
5. Water temperature (if heated)
6. Flow rate

The following items shall be recorded weekly for a pool and daily for a spa:

1. Total alkalinity
2. Calcium hardness
3. Cyanuric acid (if used)

The operator shall date and sign each record sheet. Record sheets shall be kept on the premises for at least two years.

(Procedure:)